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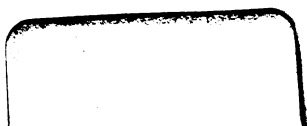
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The History, Work and Aims
OF THE
Michigan Audubon Society

BY
JEFFERSON BUTLER,
Secretary and Treasurer

DETROIT
Published by the Society
1907



From a photograph. Copyright, 1904, by A. W. Elson & Co., Boston.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

1780—1851

American Ornithologist

Painted by Henry Inman.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Michigan Audubon Society will give three prizes yearly, as follows:

1st. A prize given on Arbor Day to the school, club or person having made the most successful effort in feeding birds during the Winter months.

2nd. A prize given June 1st to the school or club doing the most efficient work in protecting birds during the nesting season.

3rd. A prize given September 15th to the school, club or person for building and protecting the best planned and most successfully used bird house.

The Educational Publishing Company of Boston and Chicago will issue a book on the birds of Michigan suitable for schools. It will be illustrated by birds in their natural colors. The book will be published under the auspices of the Michigan Audubon Society. The purpose of the work will be to give a general introduction to the various birds common to our state.

CONTENTS

Historical Data,	5
The Necessity for Bird Protection,	23
Methods of Protecting Birds,	29
A Word to Active Workers,	33
Suggestions for Teachers,	35
Points for the Study of Bird Life,	39
Suggestions for Organizing Audubon Societies,	45
English Sparrow Bounty,	47
A Chapter on Useful and Harmless Animals,	51
Books, etc., for Study and References,	55
By-Laws of Michigan Audubon Society,	65
Michigan Game Laws,	68
Notes on Legislation,	78
Licensing Committee,	80
List of Officers, Members, and Contributions Received,	81



CARDINAL

UPPER FIGURE, FEMALE; LOWER FIGURE, MALE
(One-half natural size)



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Michigan Audubon Society

ORGANIZATION, EDUCATIONAL AND PROTECTIVE WORK IN MICHIGAN, OTHER STATES AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The Michigan Audubon Society was organized through the efforts of Mr. William Dutcher, of New York City, president of the National Committee of Audubon Societies, and Chairman of the Protective Committee American Ornithologists Union. Mr. Alex. W. Blain, Jr., Editor of the Michigan Ornithological Bulletin, acted as Secretary until the writer was delegated by the Michigan Ornithological Club to proceed with the organization of an Audubon Society, and the customary election of a protective committee of that club was passed over.

Upon the selection of the writer, he called a meeting of those interested in bird protection, February 27, 1904, and at that and subsequent meetings the Michigan Audubon Society was fully organized. Hon. Thomas W. Palmer was elected president, Jefferson Butler secretary and treasurer, and the following vice-presidents: Hon. Peter White, Marquette; President James B. Angell, Ann Arbor; Hon. Louis H. Jones, Ypsilanti; Hon. Chase S. Osborne, Sault Ste. Marie. In more recent meetings the following have been elected as additional vice-presidents: Hon. Wm. B. Mershon, Saginaw; Mrs. George Gundrum, Ionia; Bryant Walker, Detroit; Prof. Charles C. Adams, Ann Arbor; William Aikman, Jr., Detroit; Hon. Charles Freer, Detroit; Clara E. Dyar, Grosse Pointe; L. Whitney Walkins, Manchester; Prof. Elliot R. Downing, Marquette; Mrs. R. Adlington Newman, Detroit.

It was deemed advisable to elect an executive committee, and the following were selected to act in that capacity: Hon.

Thomas W. Palmer, Prof. Chas. C. Adams, Hon. Peter White, Clara E. Dyar, A. W. Blain, Jr., Bryant Walker and Jefferson Butler.

An advisory council was considered necessary in the work, the idea being to secure experienced ornithologists, and the following were named to act as such council: Prof. Walter B. Barrows, Michigan Agricultural College; J. Clair Wood, Detroit; Alex. W. Blain, Detroit, and Bryant Walker, who was chosen as legal adviser.

Being in working order, the society began its active duties. The secretary carried on a correspondence with the state game warden, Mr. Charles H. Chapman, of Sault Ste. Marie, and had an conference with Mr. Fred E. Fisher, deputy game warden, located at Detroit. Mr. Chapman wrote friendly letters and Mr. Fisher pledged his support. The secretary announced that he would consider suggestions from any part of the state. He wrote to the state game warden, asking for a list of the deputy game wardens, stating that it was the purpose of the Audubon Society to work in harmony or under direction of the game warden's department. Mr. Chapman replied that he did not wish to give the names of deputies for the reason that they could do better work if they were not known. He further said that it was the rule that all complaints should be made to him.

The outlook did not appear bright, and the society concluded that one of the most serious obstacles to contend with would be the game warden system. The people of the state knew that the law relating to game was practically in abeyance. Mr. Chapman had been careful to explain at a meeting of the Michigan Academy of Science held at Ann Arbor, that the meagre results of the game warden's department was due to lack of funds. This is no doubt a serious handicap, and does not bespeak a very deep interest in the work on the part of the legislature. From complaints made by members of the legislature, it is fair to presume that the legislature, would be more liberal if they felt convinced that moneys appropriated by that body would be used with advantage for the purposes designated. In other words, state officers said that if the officials would show a desire to enforce the law in the interest of science and good government,

money for further work would be forthcoming. Several members of both the House of Representatives and Senate expressed the opinion to the writer that the game warden office was forced into politics, and that it would not be advisable to donate money for scientific or humane work along this line. While it is much more pleasant to pass over matters of this nature, yet as a complete understanding of conditions could not be had unless the question of the enforcement of the game law or lack of enforcement were fully entered into, we feel it a duty to inform the public as to what has transpired.

Recently charges have been made against the game warden and his system by Charles E. Brewster, who was chief deputy game warden under Mr. Chapman. He suggests a commission of three to take the place of the game warden, but one to be appointed during each term of the state governor. This suggestion meets the approval of many Audubonist, and if an opportunity presents itself, they might possibly give it or a similar proposition, their unanimous endorsement. Where a system has been maintained for some years under one manager it is difficult to bring about a change by the appointment of another head, unless he is an extraordinary man. Those who favor a commission say that there is no better way to interfere with such a condition than to divide the powers and influence of the office.

The officers of the Audubon Society did not despair of securing assistance from the game warden's office, and after considerable inquiry secured the names of a few deputies acting for various counties. Clara E. Dyar, of Grosse Pointe, found considerable destruction going on, not only through illegal shooting of game birds, but song birds as well, the latter mainly by boys. She conferred with the secretary, who wrote Mr. Fisher without results. Mr. Fisher was further visited several times at the Fellowcraft Club, and gave many promises to visit Grosse Pointe, none of which promises were kept. Mr. Chapman was then appealed to and in his reply explained, saying that he wished a specific report for the reason that the deputies had no power to act, unless the game warden gave directions. The situation had already been set forth in the first letter to the game warden.

but another was sent which was never answered. The Audubon Society thereupon gave up all hope of assistance from the game warden or his office. A moment's thought would convince one of the weakness of this plan when one notes that a day or more is taken in forwarding a communication from Detroit to Sault Ste. Marie, and the same time in returning, and that offenders have to be taken with the game on the person or a conviction is next to impossible, if not quite impossible, and from two to three days gives them all the time they need to kill and dispose of their plunder. If the game warden were absent nothing could be done apparently until his return.

Consequently the officers turned to the prosecuting attorney for Wayne County, and wrote him a letter explaining the situation, and calling attention to the fact that the law of 1903 specified the prosecuting attorney of the various counties as empowered to enforce the game act. Mr. Hunt never replied. After telephoning his office the secretary became convinced that it was hopeless to do anything in that direction, the excuse being that it was the game warden's duty to enforce the game act. About this time complaints were made that a colony of the great blue heron near Clarkston, Mich., was being destroyed. The secretary visited the colony and found that the old birds were being shot during the nesting season, simply because the boys and young men found them easy to hit. The old birds were lying on the ground in every direction, and the young were starving in their nests. It was the story of the snowy heron over again, except that the circumstances were changed, the money in the aigrette being the end in the first case, while this colony of great blue herons was being destroyed simply for the "fun" of destroying, as they are useless for food, commit no damage and are useful as scavengers.

The Audubon Society officers thought that it might be possible to interest the game warden in this case, and an appeal was made to the deputy at Detroit. The reply to this complaint was the suggestion that the writer go to Pontiac and prosecute the offenders, as a game warden was not necessary for the law allowed any citizen to prosecute. This is true, and all a complainant needs is money to stand the expense

and the time to devote to the same. The deputy game warden claimed to have neither, though apparently appointed for this purpose. It was out of the question for a business man to travel twenty-five miles and spend a day in securing evidence, thence go to Pontiac, make the complaint and return to prosecute. This meant from three to four days' time beside the expense. In order to get the public to stand the expense the secretary of the Audubon Society wrote to the prosecuting attorney (summer of 1904) at Pontiac, and laid the matter before him. No answer was ever received. Mr. Fisher, the deputy game warden at Detroit, said that it would be useless to appeal to the prosecuting attorney for Oakland county, as he was in league with the sportsmen and had previously refused to take action upon complaint.

As a young man at Pontiac boasted that he had killed twenty-three of the blue herons during the season, it seemed necessary to take some action or the colony would be obliterated in another season or two. The secretary made a trip to the colony and heard shooting. While there he saw two men carrying guns, one had the wings of a great blue heron and explained that his mother wanted them for dusters. The secretary was about fifty yards distant when one of these young men shot a heron which flew away quacking and probably died in the swamp in which it flew. It left a nest full of young, a few seconds before it was shot. These young men were given notice of the law and prosecution was threatened. A number of farmers were visited, some of them joked about the shooting of the "Sandhill Cranes," as they called the birds. Others said that the acts of not only the young men but some of the older men in the community was shameful in destroying these harmless creatures. Others said they could not see any harm in the boys having a little sport.

The Audubon officers could see little hope of accomplishing anything without arousing the public. Public officials are influenced by public opinion, and where it has not been customary to enforce certain laws, it is difficult for a new official to see any reason for him to enforce them when the public is indifferent and apparently satisfied with prevailing conditions. It takes considerable discussion to arouse him

and if he shows a disposition to aid he is liable to be half-hearted in what he does. One of the purposes of this booklet is to present the conditions relating to protection of wild animals and wild bird life in this state so that the public may know the obstacles in the way for the performance of a civilizing work and knowing may help in obliging its public servants in doing the duties for which they have been selected.

During the past year Mr. Charles Daniel, county deputy game warden, has been doing good work in Wayne county. He is deserving of promotion.

The Educational Work.

Many who sympathize with the Audubon Society work see little likelihood of a reformation during the present generation, and place all their hopes in the future. These persons are, however, willing to contribute money and services for the purpose of securing and distributing educational literature in the hope of inclining the young in the right direction. They are also willing to help in providing for lectures in the districts where needed for the purpose of enlisting the attention and sympathy of teachers and parents.

About twenty thousand educational leaflets issued by the National Audubon Society, pamphlets from the United States Biological Survey, publications from the Michigan Audubon Society and miscellaneous documents have been circulated. Notices containing an epitome of the Michigan laws relating to game and song, and insectivorous birds have been posted on trees in localities where destruction has been common. Leaflets issued by the National Association of Audubon Societies, giving an uncolored plate of each bird, economic value and life history of the Nighthawk, Mourning Dove, Meadowlark, Robin, Flicker, Wild Pigeon, Snowy Heron, Marsh Hawk, Red Shouldered Hawk, American Sparrow Hawk, Screech Owl, Short Eared Owl, Ostrich, American Barn Owl, Yellow Billed Cuckoo as well as two extra leaflets issued by Bird-Lore on the Robin and the Purple Martin. Last year the National Association began to publish their plates in the natural colorings, and up to date have issued the following



AMERICAN GOLDFINCH
UPPER FIGURE, MALE ; LOWER FIGURE, FEMALE
(One-half natural size)

U. S. N. M.

W. H. O.

colored plates with description, etc.: The American Goldfinch, Cardinal Groesbeak, Kingfisher, Rose-breasted Groesbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Blue Jay, Kildeer and Bluebird. These leaflets may be had in small lots from the secretary of the Michigan Society or from the National Association president, Mr. William Dutcher, 141 Broadway, New York City. The uncolored leaflets above mentioned are sold to Audubon Societies for \$3.00 per thousand. The colored plates are more expensive, being one dollar per hundred.

A series of lectures by well known ornithologists and the secretary have been given, the majority of which were illustrated by lantern slides. Among those who have spoken were Mr. Wm. Dutcher, the national president; Rev. Wm. Lord, of Massachusetts; Prof. Walter B. Barrows, of the Michigan Agricultural College, who has spoken several times; Wm. F. Finley, editor of the Condor, and Norman A. Wood, of the University Museum, Ann Arbor. An attempt has been made several times to secure a class, for Mr. Henry Oldys of the National Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., who agrees to come on liberal terms and give a series of lectures, hold daily meetings for class study and give several outings. The officers are convinced that those who study bird life make the best audubonists, as their interest seldom lags. Many have but a fleeting interest, and yet it is found worth while to have their help or sympathy, even though it may last but a few weeks. The little done here and there eventually makes the work look large. No one can be injured even by a slight interest, and many feel an uplift.

The secretary has gone into the state and spoken several times before clubs founded on broad humanitarian interests, most of the talks being illustrated. He has also addressed several clubs and societies in Detroit, as well as special gatherings of children, outing societies, etc. No charge has been made except for railroad and hotel expenses in going out of the city.

The Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture has helped the society in numerous ways by giving general information in regard to game laws, and the work in other states, in suggestions in preparing a state law, and

by forwarding upward of a thousand bulletins and leaflets. Only those directly interested realize the splendid work the U. S. Biological Survey is doing in preserving our forests, in enriching the land, protecting wild animals and birds, teaching the farmer and fruit grower methods by which they increase the yield of grain and fruit, vegetables and other forms of useful life. The documents of the government have a convincing power, no others can carry, especially to the many practical people who are inclined to question the claims of philanthropic societies believing that they are guided by sentiment. These persons are aware that when the government takes the trouble to print and circulate documents that there is a good practical reason behind the labor. Consequently we are doubly fortified when we have a stock of government bulletins on hand.

A few colleges issue pamphlets on subjects of nature study, those of Cornell being the most notable, and occasionally a few of these are secured and circulated. They too have a good effect, as they are considered beyond the influence of mere sentiment. The State Agricultural Colleges follow the same plan, and their documents are of great benefit. The Normal schools occasionally take up nature studies. One of the most interesting and practical documents is published by the Eastern Illinois State Normal School, entitled: "Bird Study in the Rural School," by Thomas F. Hawkinson, B. S. Our society secured a number of these booklets which were sent out in the state. Besides the various documents enumerated, considerable literature has been received from the educational departments of various states in regard to methods of teaching nature study and the protection of birds and animals and in observing Arbor and bird day. These documents are usually redistributed to teachers, superintendents of schools and active Audubon workers.

A number have asked for buttons, the philosophy of wearing a button being that those who are attracted by the button ask its meaning, and this gives an opportunity for the Audubonist to explain, where to open up the subject might be otherwise difficult. The button is of especial value among children ranging from 14 to 18 years, a period of life when habits of thinking are formed. The majority prefer the

likeness of some bird that can be readily distinguished. For this reason we have been buying the "Bluebird" button of the New York society. We secure them for a less price than we could have them made in Detroit. A number have been distributed in the state.

During the publication of the Bulletin of the Michigan Ornithological Club a page was given to the Audubon Society and the secretary filled the space with a history of the work accomplished and prospective work. These were reprinted and circulated throughout the State. They were useful in convincing sympathizers that the society was active and making progress. Nothing is more essential to a society depending on the public good will than a publication. This Society should have sufficient means to issue a leaflet quarterly giving the results of the work gone over, and outlining the immediate work for the future. This should be distributed without cost. Many workers lapse into indifference if there is not a reminder constantly before them. They conclude that there is no use working unless others are doing likewise; work on the part of others encourages them. After the indifferent stage takes possession of them, they are difficult to arouse.

Necessity for Some Reforms in Michigan.

When the Michigan Audubon Society organized, it was found that the State was backward in the work of bird protection. Two men went through the State about that time killing Scarlet Tanagers, Goldfinches, Humming birds, Baltimore Orioles, Indigo Buntings, Redstarts and other warblers for a woman in Toledo who was engaged in collecting for wholesale millinery jobbers. There were complaints from points in Michigan, but nothing came of the matter until they reached Ohio. All the parties were prosecuted there, convicted and punished. Later the Detroit papers reported that a Michigan lady went to Toledo on the electric cars wearing gull feathers in her hat. When she stepped from the car an officer informed her that she must remove the said feathers, as the law forbid traffic in the same, she having admitted in conversation that she purchased the feathers from the man

who did the killing. The officer undoubtedly exceeded his authority; however, we cannot pass in the matter without commending the people of Ohio for being alive to the question.

The killing of Humming birds went on in the Saginaw and Bay City district for some time. Our society threatened prosecution and informed the perpetrators of the prosecution in Ohio and the vigilance of the New York officials for the plunder was sold in that state. In time we were able to drive these members out of business, though there may be others carrying on the same work of collecting birds and their eggs. One man carried an advertisement in the Oologist offering to sell or trade bird skins and eggs and to supply dealers in any part of the country. He gave his address as Mt. Pleasant, Mich. There is good reason to believe that there is considerable traffic in birds and their eggs going on in various parts of the State. It is customary for offenders to deny any interest in such a business or to claim they have given up the traffic when they have merely changed location.

For years the egg hunters went to the St. Clair Flats and supplied egg faddists in all sections of the country. Old residents at the Flats say that it was the custom for years for egg hunters to start home on Sundays with several baskets of the eggs of game birds, so that in time the game birds were driven out and are not now common except during the spring and fall migrations. Other hunters are going to other localities, especially in Lake Michigan, Lake Superior and at points along Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay. However, in these localities the gulls and terns are the ones to suffer most. Our officers may hear of these complaints but can do little unless there is a fearless co-worker in the district where the offender resides or carries on his work.

Complaint was made that a man residing at Rochester, Mich., was in the habit of killing song birds daily for the purpose of feeding his ferrets. The secretary wrote him as well as Frank L. Covert, prosecuting attorney of Oakland County. Mr. Covert was the first prosecuting attorney to notice a letter from this society, and not only offered his co-operation in prosecuting the offender, but also wrote the

culprit. Such encouragement is of immense benefit and Mr. Covert is to be commended for showing a willingness to do his whole duty.

To read the full history of bird destruction in this State for one year would be akin to reading some of the inquisition intrigues of the middle ages. One would not need to be a sentimentalist to have a feeling of nightmare. There are many strong sympathizers in the State and a few most excellent workers, but they are comparatively few. Our State not only needs organization but co-operation among the various societies, who should at least make an effort to keep abreast with the progressive States. Later on I shall outline the work to be done in the State.

The Work of Protection in Other States and Countries.

Even in Colonial times some efforts were made to protect bird life and later a few of the States had many laws on their statute books looking toward this end, but nothing practical could be accomplished until the National Government took action and enacted a uniform law. A decision rendered by the United States Supreme Court in the case of Greer vs. Connecticut during 1896, to the effect that game was the property of the State, led to congressional legislation. A bill was introduced within a few months after the above decision but so unprepared was Congress for such legislation that three years passed before the Lacey act became a law. This act controls the importation of foreign birds as well as interstate commerce in game. Under this act useful foreign birds have been imported and harmful ones kept out. The English Sparrow has taught the government a lesson. The Lacey act gave the supervision of game and bird protection to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Biological Survey of that department has done an immense and splendid work.

The activity of the National Government not only encouraged the various States but those in foreign countries who sympathized with the movement. In 1889 the Royal Society for the protection of birds was founded in England. This society issues a quarterly publication entitled Bird Notes and News, which is sent to the secretaries of the State Audubon

Societies under direction of our National Audubon Society. During the summer of 1905 an international ornithological congress was held in London at which the question of bird protection was taken up vigorously. Three meetings had been held previously, at Vienna, Budapest and Paris. At these meetings bones and other remains of extinct species of birds were exhibited and the list given as destroyed by man is a surprisingly large one, running into the score, and a score more are on the verge of extermination.

The Germans are becoming active in bird protection and the British have had bills introduced in their various colonies providing for protection. One can appreciate the traffic in birds when he reads the report of Dr. T. S. Palmer, of the United States Biological Survey, for 1905 to the effect that "one consignment of foreign birds arrives on an average nearly every day in the year, that in busy seasons as many as ten thousand birds have come to New York on one steamer." He further states that 200,000 canaries arrive in this country yearly and 40,000 miscellaneous birds. On the other hand, there was a large shipment of wild birds from this country to Europe consisting mainly of Cardinals, Mockingbirds, Indigo Buntings and a score species of our bright-plumaged warblers. We have been speaking about the commerce in live birds, but it is a small matter compared with the traffic for millinery purposes.

The Plume Trade.

Bird Notes and News of the Royal Society (England), for 1905, has an item on the plume trade which is printed in full:

The trade report on the sales held in London on April 11, 1905, records a good attendance of buyers and good competition. Birds-of-paradise sold well at steady prices; 2,258 of light and dark plumed were offered, and 3,886 "various," the prices varying from 22s. for light plumes to 5d. for kings. Of Impeyan pheasants 100 skins were sold; and of the 295 packages of "osprey" feathers, 145 were stated to be East Indian, 45 Venezuelan, 52 South American, 41 Senegal, 7 Chinese, and 5 Turkish. The miscellaneous bird-skins comprised crested pigeons, cocks-of-the-rock, trogons, tanagers,

cardinals, kingfishers, humming-birds (43,224), canaries, etc. There were also seven lyre-bird tails from Australia, and tern-tails and other feathers from Japan; also quantities of crane, heron, bustard and eagle quills.

For the sale on June 14 the catalogues included 210 packages of "osprey" plumes, besides 200 "osprey" skins; 2,000 birds-of-paradise, together with 20 packages; 16 cases of "vulture" feathers (vulture is the trade name for the rhea), and 80 cases of miscellaneous birdskins of the usual kind. Several of these sales take place each year.

We learn from "Animal Rights," by H. S. Salt, that a few years ago a London dealer received in one consignment 32,000 dead humming-birds, 80,000 aquatic birds and 800,000 pairs of wings. That an army of men were sent out to slaughter 40,000 birds to fill a contract in Paris and that 40,000 terns were sent from Long Island in one season for millinery purposes.

Mr. Henry Oldys, of the United States Biological Survey, in "Audubon Societies in Relation to the Farmer," says that one shipment from Arch-Angel, Russia, contained ten tons of ptarmigan wings to the fashion centers. The educated, cultured women of America as well as Europe are responsible for this frightful destruction of bird life.

The Audubon Societies have been instrumental in checking the shipment of native birds to Europe and other countries, but there is no way to stop the traffic from Europe unless by arousing public sentiment to stop the demand in America for European birds. In order that the trader may realize the cruelty of shipping live birds, I take a clipping from Bird Notes and News:

Cage-Bird Traffic.

In December last forty-four dozen Larks and Greenfinches, newly caught, were sent by a Newcastle dealer to Liverpool for shipment to the United States. On arrival at New York over 80 per cent of the birds were dead, and those surviving in a weak and half-starved condition. Mr. William Dutcher, chairman of the Associated Audubon Societies, writes to our Society (December 21, 1904):

"The birds were sent in charge of a foreign express company, and the consignee refused to receive the small remnant of the original shipment. The result was that for three or four days the birds have been lying in the express office in this city gradually becoming weaker, although the company tried to feed them, but the putrefying bodies of the dead ones in the cages had a sickening effect on the ones still alive. I saw the few remaining ones—about twenty birds that had still some life in them—this morning and got the express company to consent to send them to a prominent bird dealer in this city that they might be cared for. I relate this story trusting that your Society will see whether some action cannot be taken to stop the shipment of such birds from Great Britain."

A second shipment of the same size met a like fate. Of the whole thousand birds less than 10 per cent reached New York alive. The shippers' version of the story is that the birds had every attention, but that 135 of the first lot died before being shipped, and that large numbers died daily during the voyage on account of the inclemency of the weather and the fact that the birds were fresh caught.

Neither the Bird Protection Acts nor the Acts for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals seem able to touch these cases. They are simply an outcome of the trade in caged birds permitted in England.

The English Society and the National Audubon Societies of the country are helping each other and gradually strengthening the bonds of their labors. The National Government of our country is aiding in helping enforce the State laws in regard to interstate traffic in birds and animals and in helping the Audubon Society secure information, preparing laws and enforcing the same.

The National Government has set aside the following parks and islands as game preserves in which all animals and birds are protected: The Yellowstone Park, National Zoological Park, D. C.; Afognak Island, Alaska; Pelican Island and Passage Key, Florida; Breton Island, Louisiana, and Siskiwit Reservations in Lake Superior which is a part of Michigan, Stump Lake Reservation, North Dakota, and Wichita Game Preserve, Oklahoma. Besides these set apart

as National reserves, the United States Government offers protection in three Government parks in California and in the coast islands of the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. Chicago and St. Louis were shipping game from other states. The National authorities furnished information that led to prosecution and broke up this interstate traffic, at least to a large extent.

Many states have protected their birds during severe winters by feeding them, probably the most systematic work having been done in Illinois, where appropriations were made by the legislature and by counties. New Jersey, West Virginia, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, District of Columbia and Virginia have all done more or less to protect their birds during the winter months.

In spite of the fact that many who undoubtedly considered themselves all wise looked upon the Audubon Society as a joke and did what they could to retard the movement, yet this society has accomplished a work not only for this but other countries that has astonished these all wise critics. The National Society which is now composed of members of the various State Societies, has been officered by men and women of ability and convictions. They have been untiring in their efforts to raise money for the work of the society and have used the funds judiciously.

The Audubonists have looked upon the whole question from the practical side. They have entered into agreements with wholesale milliners' associations representing both the East and the West. They have encouraged the taking of birds for scientific purposes, knowing that the government officials, colleges and scientists who killed the birds did so for the purposes of study only; that they did not take more than they needed and took not for commercial gain nor because of any fad, but for the purpose of informing humanity as well as for the interest of bird life. The majority of these men who have charge of such scientific work are ardent protectionists and it is only the amateurs here and there who decry Audubon work. The leading ornithologists who have taken birds for study and informing the public of the worth of bird life have been the first to call attention to the need of bird protection. Many of these men have been workers

in the Audubon Society. In fact, the Audubon movement grew out of the Ornithological Union. Dr. George B. Grinnell was a member of the first committee organized for bird protection by the Union in 1885. Dr. Grinnell was editor of *Forest and Stream* and in 1886 he organized the first Audubon Society. This movement made considerable progress until 1896, when the movement languished for a time, but took root again and is still progressing. The scientists and practical men did not desert the cause. It is the mere sentimentalists who have fallen by the wayside.

The Audubonists of this country have been the means of arousing the Mexican and some of the South American countries by convincing them that they are losing a most valuable asset in the destruction of their birds and active steps are being taken by these countries to protect them. The Audubon Societies were instrumental in having President Roosevelt set aside many of the National reserves for birds. The Audubon Society has raised money to supply wardens for these reservations and is today spending money to care for the gulls on islands in Lake Superior and Lake Michigan that belong to the State of Michigan. These gulls were killed and shipped to the millinery centers and the largest gulleries were on the verge of extermination. The State of Michigan did not care, nor its game wardens or other officers. Credit is due to Prof. W. B. Barrows, of the Michigan Agricultural College for calling attention to these places.

The Audubon Society has done more to reach the schools than any other organization. It has also aroused the educated, thinking masses in the community and commanded the use of their pens and thought. The National Society has been instrumental in securing the passage of the "Model" law in a majority of the States where the state societies would have been helpless.

In many of the Southern States robins, rice birds (bob-o-links), cedar waxwings and other song birds were eaten. The Audubon Society now has societies and model laws in all these states. In North Carolina and South Carolina the Audubon Societies receive the fees paid for hunters' licenses, and this amount averages from ten to eleven thousand dollars yearly. The sum is given over to warden service and

game and bird protection. Louisiana, formerly one of the worst offenders, has an excellent law and has set aside reservations in which all forms of bird life are absolutely protected. In fact, when the people of the South understood the value of bird life they were quick to help on the Audubon movement. Many ardent Audubonists in the North were free in adverse criticism of the South for bird-eating, little dreaming that many of the most useful and insectivorous birds in the North were being shot for the same purpose, such as the meadow lark, mourning dove, quail, and other species. Many of the Southern States are now far in advance of Michigan; Alabama adopted early in 1907 the most drastic bird and game law now in force in the United States. It would take altogether too much space to go into the work being accomplished in the various States and Territories.



By courtesy of Norman A. Wood.

Loon Nest and Eggs



By courtesy of Michigan Ornithological Bulletin.

**Nests of Great Blue Herons Near Clarkston, Mich. The Lower Nest
is 92 Feet from the Ground.**

The Necessity for Bird Protection

The Audubon Societies protect the birds because they are economically useful. Many who have judged themselves as practical and as opposed to sentiment have belittled the work of the Audubon Societies as an uncalled for sentimental enthusiasm. These so-called practical persons are, as a rule, ignorant of conditions and are generally unwilling to study them. This applies with equal force to those ornithologists who study but one side of their subject.

The bird protection idea grew out of the work of a committee selected by the American Ornithologists' Union, a national organization. This committee was chosen for the purpose of studying the conditions of bird destruction and devising methods of protection. This committee found that the conditions called for early action, and as a result of its work, the Audubon movement was born. Consequently the Audubon Society grew out of a practical organization, a national representative society, fostered by the leading ornithologists of the country, for the purpose of the scientific study of birds and bird life, and was not born of the imaginative brains of a few philanthropic sentimentalists, as has occasionally been asserted. These practical men, who gave their time and energy gratuitously for the preservation of bird life, had good, common-sense reasons for so doing. There are those who seem to think that the Audubonists' objection to the killing of birds is akin to that of those vegetarians who protest against the killing of animals for the table, on account of the cruelty of the practice. This is undoubtedly true in cases where the birds are destroyed for no useful purpose, where they are killed wantonly for no other reason than to satisfy our inheritance from the savage. On the other hand, they not only do not object to but encourage the taking of birds by scientific men for scientific purposes, because they realize that the studies of such men serve to enlighten the public and eventually present the strongest arguments for bird protection.

The Biological Survey of the United States Department

of Agriculture give the scientific analyses of the stomachs of thousands of birds they have taken for the purpose of such examination. The value of the common birds is set forth in various bulletins. The purpose of the study and the publications is to inform the public and especially the agriculturists and fruit growers. These bulletins are sent without charge to those who make request for them. The most useful ones to Audubonists beginning the study of the value of bird protection are "Some Common Birds in Their Relation to Agriculture," by F. E. L. Beal; "Audubon Societies in Relation to the Farmer," by Henry Oldys, and "Some Benefits the Farmer May Derive From Bird Protection," by T. S. Palmer. There are many other bulletins in relation to special groups of birds. It is astonishing how few birds are harmful. It is doubtful if any bird is more harmful than beneficial. Crows are condemned in the corn growing States because they uproot newly sprouting corn, and yet they undoubtedly balance the damage in the destruction of harmful insects.

The fact is that man's fight for existence would be greatly augmented by the passing of bird life. Some reliable scientists have gone so far as to say that human beings would be driven from the earth by the horde of destroying insects if bird life were eliminated. There are those, however, who think that man could get the mastery over these insects. We can imagine what this fight would be when we consider that Massachusetts has been fighting one insect, the gypsy moth, for the past fifteen or twenty years, in order to save the trees of the State from destruction. During that time the State has spent millions of dollars and private individuals have probably spent hundreds of thousands. This is not all, for the people have been kept in a constant worry over the plague. The United States has been called on to help, as the pest has spread into other States, and the United States officials say that the only remedy is to destroy every tree affected.

You may ask why the birds do not keep these moths checked. Birds are like other animals, including human beings, in many respects. We are all likely to prefer the food we are used to. The gypsy moth is not native, but an im-



10730

BELTED KINGFISHER

(UPPER FIGURE, FEMALE; LOWER FIGURE, MALE)

Order—COCYGES
Genus—CERYLE

Family—ALCEDINIDÆ
Species—ALCYON

04701

portation from Europe. But in spite of this fact the birds do help in destroying them. When we read of the immense destruction to Kansas crops and the crops of other Western States caused by the migration of locusts during some years, we can imagine what we would suffer from this insect alone if it were not for the hundreds of millions destroyed yearly by the birds. The birds work for man and it is only fair that we should protect them. The odd thing is that man, the greatest benefactor of the birds, should be their worst enemy.

Many who shoot birds for sport advance the argument that the birds they kill make good eating, and that the hunter is entitled to the enjoyment. This argument is considered legitimate by Audubonists when applied to the purely game birds, such as ducks, provided they are not taken during the period of gestation or nesting. But the writer has known many sportsmen to kill meadow larks and quail as game birds. What do they get? A little bit of flesh the size of a couple of fingers. And what do they destroy and rob you and the public of? The meadow lark is stated upon reliable authority to be worth twelve dollars yearly to the State, and the quail twenty dollars. They will live on an average of five or six years if not molested. The result is that the sportsmen get a few cents' worth of meat and the state loses a force worth from fifty to one hundred dollars.

If one desires to persist in a habit, arguments can be brought forth and dressed up in logical form. Some collectors who are smitten with the fad argue that it is absurd to protest against the taking of common birds, because they are so numerous as to make extermination out of the question. When rare birds are taken, these collectors argue that these birds are so few as to make their taking of little consequence. These arguments remind one of the darkey's 'posum trap, which was set near the animal's home, so he could "kotch the 'posums a-goin' and a-comin'."

It would seem too bad to make the economic value of birds the only argument for protecting them. To do so would belittle our civilization. It is unnecessary, however, to enter into the esthetic value of birds, as that is commonly understood if not appreciated. Our literature is filled with reference to birds, which shows their influence for good over

the minds of the intellectual leaders of the race. Our birds are an inheritance that have always exercised a refining influence, and it is wrong for us to permit their continued destruction. We are robbing posterity of a civilizing force that cannot be replaced.

Another reason why we should forbid promiscuous killing of birds is the bad habits acquired by boys. Many bird-killing boys become indifferent to pain and acquire vicious habits and a wrong view of things. No boy who kills a bird for the "fun" of killing can be benefited by such a practice, and many cases are on record where such boys have been led into other vicious habits and into the penitentiary. One man recently released from a Michigan institution says that the killing of birds and animals was his first bad habit, and further says that this habit deadened his conscience. Let us save the boys from acquiring such habits, habits which injure themselves as well as the State.

Whatever arguments may be advanced in favor of bird-taking, whether because of the healthful outings enjoyed, or whether some inferior reason be given, there seems to be no one to champion destruction for millinery purposes, except possibly a few who profit by the trade. The millinery jobbers' associations are in favor of discontinuing the use of wild bird feathers in the millinery trade. They are willing to discontinue the traffic if the demand can be abated. They are co-operating with the Audubon Societies. Vanity, no doubt, leads many women to wear the brilliant plumage of wild birds, but it is quite likely that the majority have failed to think on the subject and do not know what a wrong they are perpetuating. It is the duty of the Audubon Society to teach these women through education or otherwise. The most effective method is to arouse the consciences of the children while they are pupils in the schools. Our school teachers cannot do a kindlier act for the pupil or the State than to engender a kindred feeling for animal life in all forms.

Collectors and agents for millinery supply houses frequently contend that the birds are just as numerous as ever. They say they are out in the fields and they know of their own knowledge. They are undoubtedly mistaken, be-

cause they have not made a systematic study from year to year. Mr. William T. Hornaday, the director of the Zoological Park, New York City, states, after thorough investigation, and the consensus of opinion of students in the various states, and in the nation at large, that bird life deceased 23 per centum in Michigan in fifteen years; that is from 1885 to 1898, and in the nation decreased 40 per centum, or almost half. This is certainly a disgraceful history for a civilized country.

We have shown that the birds are useful, not only as a civilizing influence, but economically, that they are destroyed by many forces, and that consequently they are in need of protection. Why should not those who have the best interests of their country and humanity at heart protect them?



By courtesy of Detroit Free Press.

Green Heron Nest and Eggs.



By courtesy of P. A. Taverner.

Least Bittern.

Methods of Bird Protection

A great many speak of bird protection with enthusiasm, but when requested to take an active interest in the work are at a loss to know what to do. The general work of protection may be summed up as follows:

1. Feeding the birds during the severe winter weather.
2. Protecting the nests from boys and collectors. Ornithologists with a license may collect the eggs of song or insectivorous birds, provided no more than one set of eggs is taken during the year. For collecting the eggs of game birds a license must be obtained from the State game warden, and is usually limited to 30 days.
3. Protecting the birds from hunters, who frequently shoot large numbers of game birds to eat, to give to friends, to sell, and to make a record.

Keep up with the law in regard to the seasons and the number of game birds that may be taken, as well as the method of killing. The law forbids many methods.

Hunters commonly shoot song birds just for the practice of straight shooting.

The methods of carrying out this work of protection is varied. During the winter grain of various kinds may be scattered in places frequented by birds. The birds keep to the trees at this time of year, both for the food obtained and for warmth, consequently it is well to place the food near woods or a collection of trees. It is better to grind the grain, such as corn, oats, sunflower seed, buckwheat, crumbs of bread, meat, etc., are very acceptable, and the suet and bones spoken of before should not be forgotten. The birds will run no danger of starving during the summer. However, if you desire to attract them, it is possible to do so in summer by growing the trees, shrubbery and flowers that produce the food they prefer. Vines are always appreciated by birds. Belle Isle in the Detroit River had few orioles a dozen years ago. Vines were grown for the purpose of

attracting them and the Baltimore orioles came in large numbers. Non-poisonous sumach are enjoyed by the birds, besides they look attractive. The climbing bittersweet looks inviting in the autumn and will be frequently visited by the birds, and the same is true of the Virginia creeper. Those who have the ground can experiment and acquire knowledge at first hand in the course of two or three seasons. All berries should be left on the vines or trees, as winter birds are fond of all varieties and the spring birds are sure to discover what may be left upon their return.

The State of Illinois spends about five thousand dollars each winter in feeding their birds. It is customary in some States to scatter food over the ground or snow for quail, as well as in openings in crusted snow, as the quail frequently get imprisoned in such holes and slowly starve to death. This is especially so after a sleet or rain when snow is on the ground, as the openings are made too small for the bird to escape or entirely closed. In many States the schools undertake the feeding of birds and useful wild animals.

The first step to protect birds and animals against the depredation of boys is to get the superintendents and teachers of schools interested in bird and animal protection. If the teachers are so disposed, they can arouse a sense of right in children and impress them with the fact that the world was not created or evolved for man alone, but that other useful creatures should enjoy the same privileges of life and happiness. It is not advisable to invoke the law in the case of children disobeying the game law, without first informing the instructors. Both teachers and parents should be appealed to. However, it sometimes has a wholesome effect to have boys punished who persist in destroying in defiance of the law. Some boys follow the reasoning of their elder sportsmen and kill animals and birds because such animals or birds are considered harmful. The boys should be taught that it is wrong for them to kill such animals or birds. Advise them to leave the matter of regulation to scientists, or to the State. Many of the "weather prophets" in the community are mistaken in regard to animals and birds and frequently advise the killing of all hawks, yet the majority of hawks are among the most useful birds our country pos-

sesses. They kill a robin in a cherry tree as a pest, yet fail to give that bird credit for the immense good it does. These men are not competent to judge of the value of a bird and should be supplied with government bulletins, giving the economic value of the bird they condemn.

It is well to have the children observe a bird day, or to add that feature to arbor day. Literature on the usefulness of birds should be supplied, and a talk or recitation given touching upon the subject. Bird boxes should be built and erected by the children under supervision in cemeteries, public grounds, etc. By erecting these boxes they will have opportunity to study bluebirds, house wrens and purple martins and sometimes other forms. The three mentioned are all very interesting and well worthy of study. A common cracker or soap box will answer, with a hole for entrance, and this hole should be small, except for martins. No nesting material is needed, as the birds prefer to supply their own. The pole on which the box is erected should be firmly fastened so as not to sway with the wind. Children should be interested in birds, but the interest should take into consideration the rights of the bird, and not be governed wholly by the child's pleasure or curiosity.

Protecting birds from hunters is not so difficult, except where hunters are in large numbers in the community. A letter from a public official, such as a prosecuting attorney, or game warden, often clears the air in such cases. The fact that the schools in the community are teaching the children the value of birds and their right to protection often has an influence for good among the fathers and friends of the children. The knowledge of an Audubon Society in their midst often makes these men more circumspect.

Under the law it is not necessary to seek an officer. Any person may make complaint to a justice of the peace, but in order to convict he must appear as a complaining witness. Sometimes the people in a community will bear with great annoyance before instituting a suit. Those who may seek to avoid such unpleasantness should at least inform the prosecuting attorney of the county, and request him to write the offender. He should also inform the county deputy game warden. Under the law, it is also the duty of the sheriff and

his deputies to enforce the law, and constables are given the same power. This provides for persons to enforce the law in every community. If a man is in fear that an officer of the law is investigating his actions, he is likely to discontinue his offence.



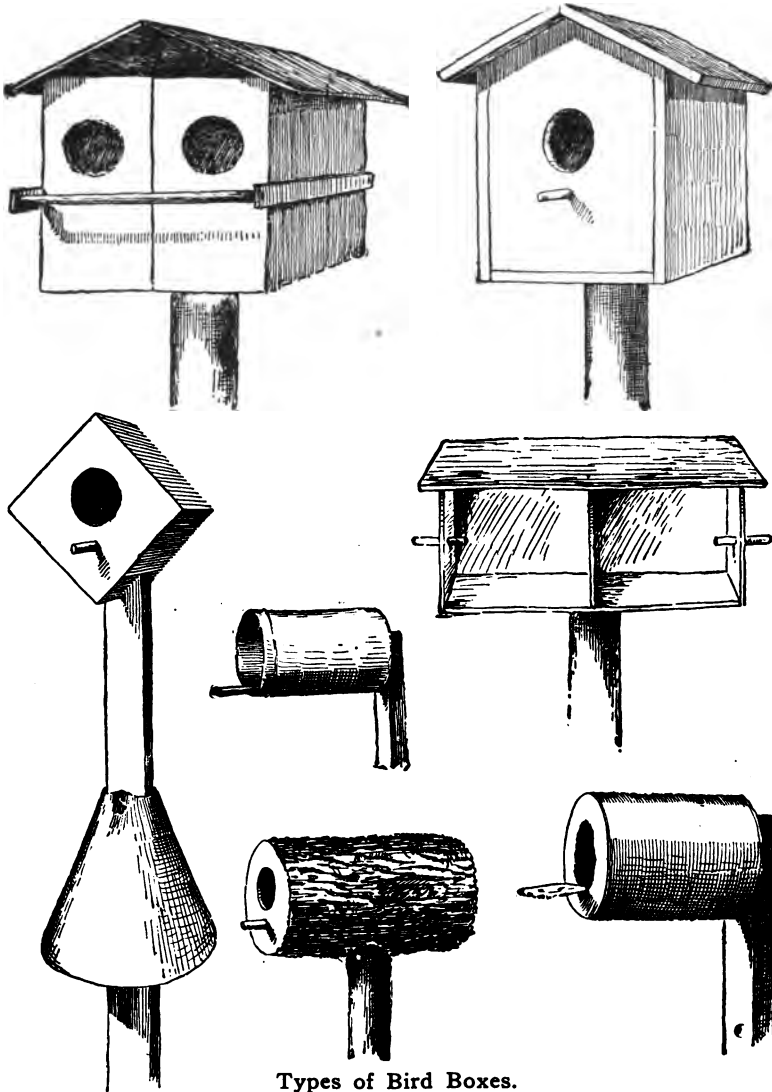
A Word to Active Workers

Local societies are organized in the various districts with a full set of officers. All the societies are allied to the State organization and under its jurisdiction. The local societies are expected to carry on active protective work in their district. The State society purchases literature, etc., from the National organization, and the local societies in the State are expected to forward sufficient money to the State society to cover the expense of securing such literature or books as they may wish to use for distribution. The local societies are expected to enlist the sympathies of school children and the co-operation of teachers. They should have copies of the laws of the State relating to protection, and should endeavor to have the officers, therein named, carry out the provisions of the act. They should keep records of the work they do and before beginning active duties should outline their work as far as they possibly can, which means that it is necessary for them to know the conditions prevailing in their districts. This requires that they should have the advice of a practical ornithologist who is familiar with the districts or should skirmish around and learn by observation and inquiry for themselves. The local secretary should keep the State secretary informed of the conditions in the districts and the work being done. The State secretary is obliged to report to the National president.

The local society should make a study of bird life as it is found, that those who are familiar with birds, their history and usefulness make the best Audubonists, and the more "bird students" there are in a society the more active and useful it is. The society should have a dozen or so of the best books on the subject, if possible. If their finances will not permit of this, they should request Mrs. Mary Spencer, State Librarian, at Lansing, to forward books. If they desire slides for lectures, they may borrow the same from the State secretary by paying expressage and paying for any slides they may break.

The local secretary should write to the Secretary of State

for a copy of Act No. 257 Public Acts, 1905, relating to the protection of game birds. For further details of work, literature, etc., write the State secretary, 25 West Elizabeth street, Detroit, Mich.



Types of Bird Boxes.

Courtesy of Cornell University.

Suggestions for Teachers

Teachers should have no hesitation about taking up at least the humanitarian side of protection of birds and animals, for it would not interfere with the present courses offered and the results would be worth the labor. Of course, the teacher could give a more intelligent reason for both animal and bird protection if informed of the lives and usefulness of such animals and birds, and were in touch with the work now being carried on.

It is not necessary that school clubs be organized, though it is often desirable. Nor is it absolutely necessary to have courses in nature study, though such are highly commendable and are always profitable of good results. The school books usually have stories of birds and animals, and teachers, by being informed as to the lives and usefulness of these subjects, may use their knowledge to good advantage during the reading or discussion of the theme. Above all, they should instill the humanitarian spirit, for that is really the aim and end of the Audubon endeavor, as well as other protection societies. And if this is overlooked, the whole Audubon undertaking is useless. Not only should boys be taught the wrong of killing animals, but the girls should be impressed with the wrong they do in aiding bird slaughter by the wearing of bird feathers.

If parents should object to time being taken for such instruction, it might be well to remind them that such teachings are compulsory in many States. Maine, Texas, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Washington, California, Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana and Oklahoma oblige the schools to teach the rights of animals. Michigan will adopt such a law before many years. The testimonials of teachers and superintendents of schools in the States where such subjects are taught show that where the rights of animals are understood and respected that the children have more consideration for each other, show more courtesy and maintain better discipline, while crimes and wrongs among the children have

decreased. The American Humane Education Society, 19 Milk street, Boston, Mass., are doing a good work in bringing about laws for the protection of animal life. Literature may be had, without cost, on the proper treatment of animals by writing that society.

Humane treatment of some of our animals means the protection of thousands of our birds. Teach the children to care for cats and to feed them daily so that they will not be obliged to forage for their living and thereby be forced back to semi-savagery. Cats destroy countless birds every year, because they go around ravenously hungry. It is inhuman to allow this, to say nothing of the loss of birds. Read "Friends and Helpers," by S. J. Eddy, which may be had through the above society, or Ginn & Co., Boston, Mass.

Teachers should have a general knowledge of what is being done in nature study work and in order to sustain their interest, they should ask for the latest Audubon literature. Bird-Lore, the official organ of the Audubon Society, has full information in regard to Audubon work. Mr. Frank M. Chapman, of the Museum of Natural History, New York City, the author of many reliable books on bird life, is editor, and subscriptions may be sent to him at the above address. A most useful book on the economic value of birds may be secured for five cents, entitled "How Birds Affect the Farm and Garden." (See heading "Books.")

A day is proclaimed in Michigan each spring by the Governor, known as Arbor Day. The publication of the proclamation is done in such an obscure way that it is usually impossible to learn of the day set until it has gone by. This, no doubt, is due to the fact that so few take an interest in it. Let an interest be shown and we shall hear more of the day. In Wisconsin it is known as Arbor and Bird Day. The exercises held on this occasion are published by the Secretary of State for Wisconsin, and possibly copies could be obtained by writing that official. The title of the book is "Wisconsin Arbor and Bird Day Annual." The day in Michigan should be taken advantage of and appropriate exercises held. Beautifying the school grounds usually leads to bird study and to bird protection. Trees bring birds and a few evergreens near the school may attract

birds during the winter, especially if provision is made for food. If boxes are properly placed, bluebirds, wrens and purple martins may nest in them during the spring. This will help make the school surroundings cheerful. The Audubon literature will give full information as to boxes, study of birds, etc.

The children should be taught that it is not their place to kill even those birds that may be considered objectionable, as the English sparrow or crow. They should be impressed with the fact that the United States Government is spending thousands of dollars yearly by the employment of experts to study birds and instruct the farmers, fruit growers and citizens generally as to their value and explaining why they should be protected. Many of the State governments, through their agricultural colleges, are doing the same. Nearly all the States have protective laws. The children should know this, and that a campaign is being carried on in Europe, Australia, South America and other parts of the civilized world for the protection of wild bird life. Make the children feel that they are taking a part in the movement for the advancement of civilization, and at the same time helping to make our country and its crops of more worth to the people. The fact that birds have been of immense interest to scientists and poets should not be forgotten, and that consequently birds have had a potent influence in cultivating the esthetic sense. This has been true from the dawn of history, as may be learned from the ancient poets.

The best general book on animals, including birds, is "The America Natural History," by Wm. T. Hornaday. Where there are a number of teachers in nearby schools, this book would not be so expensive if one book were purchased for the use of all.

For those who desire a start in bird study, the season and locality of a few common birds is here given:

Winter Birds—English Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Junco till middle of December, Song Sparrow occasionally, Blue Jay, Northern Shirke Red Poll, Crow, Chickadee, Nuthatch (white breasted), Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker some winters, Goldfinch, Golden Crowned Kinglet during mild winters.

Acquaintances to be made during March and early April—Robin, Bluebird, Crow Blackbird, Red-wing Blackbird, Cowbird, Meadowlark, Mourning Dove, Brown Thrasher, Killdeer, Towhee, Tufted Titmouse, Goldfinch (in colors), White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Kingfisher, Phoebe, Brown Creeper, Prairie Horned Lark.

Acquaintances to be made in latter April and in May. bird, Catbird, House Wren, Baltimore Oriole, Orchard Oriole, Chipping Sparrow, Wood Thrush, Oven Bird, Rose-breasted Groesbeak, Bob-o-Link, Red-eyed Vireo, Indigo Bunting, Myrtle Warbler, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Maryland Yellowthroat, Scarlet Tanager, Crested Flycatcher, Redstarts, Yellow Warbler.



By courtesy of P. A. Taverner.

Yellow Breasted Chat.

Pointers for the Study of Bird Life

It is the experience of the society that the most efficient bird protectionists are those who are interested in ornithology, for the reason that their sympathy is constant. The state is well supplied with sympathizers who know little or nothing of bird life and the value of a bird to the state. If these persons show an active interest, it is usually a passing one, and they cannot be relied upon, because, not being interested in the study of bird life itself, their attention is commanded by subjects that attract them elsewhere. There are notable exceptions of philanthropists and public-spirited citizens who have every good work in the community at heart.

The Audubon Society desires the support of all and welcomes everyone, even though they can give no more than good will, for after all, we are finally dependent on public opinion. Yet the fact remains that the better informed render the better service. There are a number of workers who deplore the fact that they are unable to answer questions regarding the various species of birds, the localities in which they may be found, their food, their value to the state, their nesting habits, the periods and zones of migration, and the best means of protection. Other persistent questions and usually considered the most important in beginning the study of birds, are their identification by color and by song. In order to aid in answering the first question, a few of our common birds in color are presented in this volume.

Many of the above questions cannot be taken up, as they require whole volumes, and for those who desire further information and study, a list of desirable books will be given later.

We agree with many writers that the best time to take up bird study is during the winter, because the species are comparatively few and the confusion is not so great. Once get interested in the winter birds, and your further progress is assured.

Beginners frequently become discouraged because they find they cannot identify all the birds in one or two seasons,

but it is usually more profitable to give attention to a few birds, not more than a dozen species, during the first season, for the reason that if you know your dozen thoroughly, you are not likely to confuse them with others. If you do not know the most familiar species, you will borrow trouble.

A correspondent wrote to inquire if the birds he saw in the meadow near his house, being about the size of a robin, were towhees. The writer replied that he would not expect towhees to remain long in meadows, unless they were well supplied with trees or tall shrubs; that the birds he saw were probably meadow larks, or bob-o-links. He finally learned that they were meadow larks. One should not expect to find towhees in open meadows or meadow larks in deep woods. Many start out by merely endeavoring to identify a large number of birds, and really never learn to know their birds. These are the persons who are most likely to become weary or discouraged.

One of the most important things is to learn the habitat of each bird, and second, to know why they are attracted to those places. One who observes with an eye for information would never think of looking in the woods for red-winged blackbirds, and yet the writer knew of a person who did this very thing. At the same time it is infinitely better to display ignorance and be righted than to remain ignorant.

Michigan has sufficient range north and south to make considerable difference in bird life. One would not expect to see a cardinal north of Saginaw, and it may be they do not go that far north. On the other hand, the purple finch and evening grosbeak, at times common in northern Michigan during the winter, are rarely seen in the southern portion of the state, except during the severest weather and after such weather has been continued for some time.

To begin with, note the characteristics of the English sparrow, so that you can readily distinguish it from the native species. Do not attempt to identify the whole tribe of sparrows that may visit your neighborhood in the course of the year, for they are as difficult to learn as the warblers. It is taken for granted that everyone knows the robin and the crow. Beginners usually do not care to give time for study of either one. Yet scarcely a publication in ornithology in



SCARLET TANAGER

U. S. N. M.

1. ADULT MALE.

2. ADULT MALE, CHANGING TO WINTER PLUMAGE.

3 ADULT FEMALE.

Order—PASSERES
Genus—PIRANGA

Family—TANAGRIDÆ
Species—ERYTHROMELAS

1

the country but has some new facts concerning the robin in the course of each year, and Prof. W. B. Barrows, who spent several years studying the crow, says that he still learns new things of them.

The black-capped chickadee is common throughout the state during the entire year, and is therefore known as a resident bird. They are more common in the southern portion of the state in winter than in summer, and probably less common in the northern portion. The fact is that the state has not been studied thoroughly enough to give definite information on this, and many other points in bird life. The chickadee is considered the most friendly of all our birds, and is well worthy of study. The winter months is the best time to make their acquaintance. The writer has found them in thickly grown woods, for the reason that such woods usually offer more food and better shelter.

The white-breasted nuthatch is generally seen in the same woods with the chickadees. Its colors are more attractive and its notes a very odd one.

The slate colored Junco is common in southern Michigan during the winter, and just as common in the northern portion in the summer, where it breeds.

Both the hairy and downy woodpeckers are winter, as well as summer birds, and may be observed in all parts of the state. The red-headed woodpecker frequently winters in Wayne County.

The blue jay is a common resident bird, and the northern shrike may be seen in all parts of the state during winter, though it is rare in the southern counties.

The winter birds may be attracted to your homes, provided you do not live in the business district of a large city, by placing pieces of suet on trees or other convenient places above the ground. Also by scattering crumbs, waste meat and small seeds. Woodpeckers like bones with fragments of meat, and suet attracts nuthatches and chickadees, while juncos, goldfinches and native sparrows enjoy small seeds such as come from the leavings of hay. As the birds have a severe struggle for life during our winters, you may feel that in banqueting them, you are doing a charitable deed, in return for which you receive their companionship and are



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Live Sharp Skinned Hawk.

W. B. O.

afforded means for study, which will broaden your insight into nature.

It is impossible to understand birds from the study of books alone, and it is too long and laborious a problem to learn the characteristics of birds without books. It is better to read up on your birds directly after an excursion taken for bird observation, and the problems will be less difficult if field notes are taken at the time of observation. The study of birds is also much simplified by the use of opera or field glasses, as you can observe from a distance without disturbing the object of study.

The spring brings the migration of scores of species running considerably over the hundred mark in almost any locality. It is not advisable to endeavor to identify all the thrushes, warblers and sparrows the first season, and it is just as well to pass by the flycatchers, except the king bird, and not to worry over the vireos. The larger birds are, as a rule, more easily studied, their colors more readily distinguished and their song more characteristic possibly, because it is loud and distinct. Among the more easily identified and studied are the blue-bird, meadow lark, brown thrasher, cat-bird, Baltimore oriole, kingfisher, towhee, purple martin, red-winged blackbird, wood thrush, cowbird and American goldfinch. If you must have warblers, you will find the yellow warbler and redstart common enough.

During the nesting season be careful not to touch the eggs of any species until you learn their habits, as some birds abandon a nest that has been disturbed. Watch at a distance until you are sure you may make close observation. Birds that are not too greatly disturbed may be photographed. Those who desire to attract the birds about their houses may do so by having fresh drinking water in convenient spots. A fountain with sufficient water for bathing purposes is the best attraction. Bluebirds, house wrens and purple martins will build in boxes if properly placed. Write National Association of Audubon Societies for Bird-Lore treating of bird houses. (January and February, 1905.) Address 141 Broadway, New York City.

The student will find much interest in the gathering and study of nests. The nests should be taken soon after the

nesting season, as the rain is liable to take away their freshness. A few birds, as the house wren and robin, use the same nest for a second brood, but most birds nest but once during the year. Learn for yourself and then use your best judgment in taking nests. Observe the material they use and study their methods of building. Do not take eggs. In the first place, the state law forbids it, and in the second, they answer no scientific purpose except to a biologist. We admit they are objects of beauty and may be interesting to the curious, but it is not legitimate to destroy useful, as well as beautiful objects in nature to adorn a corner in a room.

For further study consult the books, or any of them which may be at hand, which is given in the following pages:



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Little Green Heron.

Suggestions for Organizing Societies

To begin, there must be some one willing to give a little time to the effort.

Usually the more enthusiastic and convincing the mover, the more rapid the progress.

If you believe that our birds should be protected and the laws enforced, don't feel that you are not the right person to set the thing in motion. Those who *will* are usually those who *can*.

Get five or more of your acquaintances, whom you know to be friends of the birds, to pledge themselves to meet at a designated time and place for the purpose of organizing an Audubon Society.

Your teachers and your newspaper people will almost always join the movement. Clergymen and public-spirited citizens should be sought for advice and assistance.

Having fixed the time and place of meeting, make suitable advertisement by a few cards in public places and announcements in your local newspapers. Newspaper men and women are always willing to give the use of their columns in aid of a good cause.

A few letters to persons whose influence you may think would add to the success of the movement, requesting their presence and encouragement, will serve a good purpose.

State the object of the organization in your call. Say that the society is formed for the purpose of protecting the non-harmful species of wild birds; to assist in enforcing the laws for the protection of songbirds and game; to encourage the study of natural history in the public schools; to discourage the wearing of the skins or plumes of wild birds by women, and to stimulate in old and young a love of the beautiful in Nature.

Having come together, complete your organization by adopting by-laws and selecting your officers. Don't be discouraged by a small attendance at your first meeting; a great

many persons always wait for a procession to move before they fall in.

When your senior section is organized, take up the work in the schools. You will find the teachers in hearty sympathy with the movement. Our plan is to form a Junior society of the pupils of the schools.

Educational leaflets issued by the National Committee of Audubon Societies and leaflets issued by the Michigan Society, relating to the work as it progresses, will be mailed to all applicants.

When a sufficient number of local societies are organized it is planned to federate them as a State society.

An Audubon Society is needed in every county in the State. In some localities men are engaged in killing song-birds for the millinery trade, nests of our most useful and beautiful species are robbed by collectors frequently for gain, and by boys for "sport," and reports have come that in certain counties, unguarded by wardens, the laws protecting game birds and the meadow-lark are openly violated.

There are many thousands of good friends of the birds in Michigan, but they can do little in the way of effective protective work save by organized effort.

Give a little of your time to the pressing needs of this humane cause and you will be paid a thousand fold. The songs of the birds will be richer and the return of the migrants will bring more pleasure when you feel that you have done your part to shield them from the cruel, the mercenary and the thoughtless, who would deprive our State not only of one of its chief ornaments and attractions, but of one of the best economic forces in the State and nation.



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Robin Feeding Young.

English Sparrow Bounty

Michigan had a law passed in 1897, under which a bounty was paid by the state for the killing of English sparrows. The law led to a great deal of fraud, as those degenerates who made a practice of killing those birds did not hesitate to kill other useful species, and to swear that they were English sparrows. This put a premium on false swearing and led to the destruction of large numbers of song sparrows, chipping sparrows, gold-finches, tree sparrows, and other birds that were sparrowy in look. Shooting of youths by each other took place in quarrels over the bodies or heads of dead birds, they being obliged to present the heads alone to receive the bounty. Men made their living by destroying birds and, of course, were not particular what they shot. The result of the law was that it led to demoralization among boys and youths, as well as among many men. The history of the effects of that law as presented to the legislature was a disgusting, disgraceful story, and sufficient to cost a blot on our civilization. The result was that it was repealed in 1901.

In 1905 another legislature that failed to study the conditions of the previous law, passed an act allowing counties to give bounties on the killing of English sparrows. Some one is eternally forcing on the sparrow bugaboo and communities become frantic over the supposed harmfulness of these birds who know nothing about them, except from hearsay. The writer has gone into the communities and asked as to the damage the English sparrows commit without ever being able to obtain any facts. One will tell what a reliable authority told him, and that reliable authority will cite somebody else. These birds are pugnacious, quarrel more or less among themselves and undoubtedly drive other birds away that attempt to take possession of the localities where they live. From reports we are obliged to believe that they do some damage in some localities by eating grain, but, notwithstanding this, the writer is of the opinion that they do

much more good in this state that they are given credit for. They are splendid scavengers in the cities, are cheerful friends during the long, winter months, often being the only wild animal life present, and are of little or no annoyance during nesting, except where an endeavor is made to attract strange birds. In such cases they certainly are troublesome. There is absolutely no reason for the killing of these birds in the cities, where most of the bounties are collected, and the endangering of human life by flobert rifles should never be tolerated as in the past.

Many persons have a strong prejudice against the English sparrow, without knowing why. Who can look at this bird with the temperature about the zero mark, hopping through the snow and chirping as happily as though it were a day in June, and say they despise it? They give cheer to many and brighten the lives of the disheartened and the ill, and afford amusement and inspiration to countless children.

Of course, it would be unfair to quote the documents of the U. S. Biological Survey where it speaks favorably, and to ignore their conclusions when adverse to any bird. The writer is keeping in mind what the bulletin entitled "The Relations of Sparrows to Agriculture" has to say regarding the English sparrow as a destroyer of grain. Dr. Judd, of the Survey, says that about one-third of their food, covering several states, consisted of useful grain, taken from farms, but he also shows that forty-nine per cent, or about one-half its food, consisted of grasshoppers that are harmful. That they destroy cut worms, fall web-worms, gypsy moths, tent caterpillars, tussock moths, and that they are most potent in keeping down the army-worms. Furthermore, they rid city parks of insects harmful to trees. These things are mentioned because many form a prejudice against this bird because they think it does no good and much harm.

At any rate, whatever may be the public attitude towards the species, Dr. Judd says, "It should be borne in mind that the bounty system has proved to be only an extravagant failure." The most effective way to destroy this sparrow is to break up their homes during the nesting season. This has been done in some localities with marked results. One or two men in a town could look after this, who know the

English sparrow and its nest when they see it, and the farmers could protect themselves likewise. Boys should never be allowed to do this kind of work. The shooting of English sparrows should be absolutely forbidden. A Grand Rapids daily, under an editorial entitled "The Sparrow Bounty," says: "The money paid for bounties is worse than thrown away. Not only does it not materially reduce the sparrow population, but is an encouragement of fraud and an incitement to acts of cruelty by boys," and ends the article by saying, "A war of extermination by boys with toy pistols and sling-shots should not be tolerated. Such a war is cruel to birds, bad for the boys and wasteful of the public funds." Let us unite in presenting these facts before our law-makers.



By courtesy of the Michigan Ornithological Club.

Martin House.



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

At the Salt Licks.

Useful and Harmless Animals

Many useful and practically harmless animals are destroyed because they commit some damage to crops or vegetables at certain periods of the year, without any thought being taken as to their value during the balance of the year. Others are destroyed because men find pleasure in hunting and killing. To read the pamphlets issued by Mr. Wm. T. Hornaday, of the New York zoological park, entitled "The Destruction of Our Birds and Mammals," is sufficient to make one ashamed of our country and civilization when considered by our relations to the lower animals.

For years the books for children on animal studies had most to say about lions, elephants, tigers and other animals of a ferocious type. To-day we are beginning to learn something of squirrels, raccoons, muskrats, foxes, chipmunks, frogs, snakes, moles and other common forms, including butterflies, bees, ants, wasps, gall flies and other insects. The fact that some of these forms of life prey upon others has furnished a reason for most men destroying any of them they may choose to select. This is not the reasoning of better minds, and it is to be hoped that the day is dawning when men will be above such reasoning.

Most of the books written in the past in regard to animals, especially those of a popular nature, have been written for the hunter, the greater portion being taken up with instructions on the best methods of trapping or hunting the various animals; how to prepare them for the pot, to skin or stuff them. Recently there has been an increase of the humane book, books of study of the characteristics of the wild animals in caring for their young, and the reasons why such animals should not be totally destroyed. However, the protection of wild animals has been mostly left to the sportsmen, who, becoming alarmed lest they may have nothing of a live nature to shoot, put a moderating check on themselves and their companions. The humane societies have given their attention mainly to children and the domes-

ticated animals and left the wild ones to the mercy of the hunter.

The principal reason for this is that those fond of nature in the past were not encouraged to study the animals they saw, but were taught to shoot them. Of course, they were obliged to learn much about them in order to be successful



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Gray Squirrel.

huntsmen. But they did not study the animals for the sake of knowing them and getting acquainted with nature. Those who have had the humane interest developed and desired the protection of animals have known very little of the actual life of animals, and, consequently have been poor protectionists. With the advent of the nature study idea, there

came a desire to study the various forms of life, in order to better appreciate nature and enjoy the things that life presents.

Up to the present time, those partaking of the interest in nature study from the philosophical and humane standpoint, have had comparatively little opportunity to get acquainted with what were common wild animals a few years since, because of their scarcity. They probably will be scarce until those persons develop a strong desire to protect these animals. Of course, reforms in this direction will come slow, as men have been accustomed to hunting for the pleasure of killing from the earliest times, and, of course, it would be unreasonable to expect a rapid reformation. Books like that of "Animal Rights" by H. S. Salt are logical. The reform sought is, however, one for the centuries instead of an age. The argument is considered extreme, even to the majority of our advanced philanthropists. He argues against the eating of all forms of animal life, not because of the cruelty of killing, but because it tends to brutalize man and keep us in a semi-barbarous state. This argument stands good for the coming centuries. The time will probably come when civilized man will look back with horror on the centuries of animal slaughter.

However, most of us are brought up to meat eating, and few of us have to do the killing. Custom is confirmed habit, and habit, Prof. James, of Harvard, says, is man, is life itself. Some reformers are starting out with the idea of insisting on the absolute rights of all animals. This is too much to work for. Most of the successful crusades end in compromise and reformers who do not expect too much, accomplish the most. This society has been criticised and called inconsistent because we have agreed to the taking of birds for scientific purposes. We are said to be favoring a few, but then there is something to be considered in the aim sought. Besides, it is better to secure a good law, which is beneficial to the form of life sought to be protected, and to get the support of scientists, than to let matters drift.

In protecting the wild animals, it is necessary to consider the customs of sportsmen and make the best compromise possible. By this method you will get strong sup-

porters instead of having a powerful enemy to oppose. Sportsmen who want to be unmolested will attempt to argue you out of protective notions by telling you the skunk steals chickens, that raccoons get into the corn, that muskrats have been known to destroy gardens, that rabbits, if common, eat too much grass to be tolerated; that the woodchuck, squirrels, beavers and the remaining tribe of wild animals are useless. To this it is well to be able to show some of the usefulness of these animals, for this seems to be the test. It is still the common notion that the earth was made specially for man and to think that other animals have no rights. It is well not to take the opinion of hunters as to the value of any animal, but to know for one-self, to inquire of the well-known scientists of the state and consult the authoritative literature.



Courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Young Crows

Books, Etc. for Study and References

Many inquiries are made regarding books, as to their value and reliability. The nature books are beginning to assume a proper place among our literature. There have been a number published that have mistakes, some of them serious, though for the most part they have been correctly written. One serious mistake, or a few minor ones, are sufficient to bring condemnation on a book. Most of these books were hastily compiled, without sufficient data for all statements made.

Students of our day have the advantage of the mistakes made by those who have gone before, and have improved means for study. Therefore, as a rule, present day students are enabled to give more accurate results. The pioneers of ornithology, Audubon, Wilson and Gilbert White, will always have a place and their works will live, but the books of many of the intermediate writers will become next to worthless.

However, there are many excellent works in circulation that cannot be noted here because of lack of space.

Many of those which have stood the test of time are mentioned, but the majority are recent. Of the former, most of them have been revised and are kept up to date and in a sense are recent. Details of the methods of treating the subjects are not given. Anyone contemplating buying a book on birds or animals better write the publishers for details of each book advertised.

We had hoped to announce a book on the birds of Michigan. Prof. Walter B. Barrows, of the Michigan Agricultural College, has such a work in preparation, which we trust will soon be available for students. Prof. Barrows was formerly connected with the United States Biological Survey, and wrote bulletins on the crow and the English sparrow. Prof. Barrows is considered one of the leading

ornithologists in the United States, and his book should prove of the greatest benefit to Michigan students. The Michigan Audubon Society desires to thank Prof. Barrows for the active interest he has shown in bird protection and the assistance he rendered the Audubon Society in securing our present law.

Before reviewing the books mentioned below, it may be well to call attention to the educational leaflets of the National Audubon Society. Those in color may be had for \$1.00 per hundred, the others for \$3.00 per thousand. There are also many other valuable leaflets, such as on the organization of school Audubon clubs (How to Organize. By Gilbert H. Trafton); "Save the Birds." By Wm. Dutcher, National President of the Audubon Societies, etc. All Audubonists should read, "Audubon Societies in Relation to the Farmer," by Henry Oldys, Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., sent free.

"Bird-Lore" is the official organ of the National Society, which is composed of the various state organizations. This magazine issues plates in color, contains valuable information, and is worthy of support of all bird lovers. The price is \$1.00 yearly for 6 numbers. Forward subscriptions to Frank M. Chapman, editor, American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Books for Beginners.

"Bird Life," by Frank M. Chapman. A reliable guide to the study of our common birds, illustrated; one of the most interesting books on the subject. D. Appleton & Co., New York. Price, \$2.00.

"The First Book of Birds;" "Second Book of Birds." By Olive Thorne Miller. Are commonly used as elementary works, and are recommended by teachers. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. Price, \$1.00 and \$1.10, respectively.

"Stories of Bird Life," by T. Gilbert Pearson, is a good healthy book, full of interesting matter. Used in many schools. B. F. Johnson Pub. Co., Richmond, Va. Price, 60 cents.

"Citizen Bird," by Mabel Osgood Wright, is an excellent

guide for children and covers sufficient ground to give a general grasp of the subject of birds. The Macmillan Co., New York. Price, \$1.50.

Books for General Reading.

"Birds in the Bush". By Bradford Torrey. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. All of Mr. Torrey's works are excellent.

"Birdland Echoes." By Jacob Abbott. J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia. Price, \$1.50.

"Wake-Robin." By John Burroughs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. Mr. Burroughs's works are all accurate and are inspired with the nature charm.

"Wild Life of Orchard and Field." By Ernest Ingersoll. Harper & Bros., New York.

"Walden" and other books. By Henry Thoreau. Thoreau is one of the pioneer nature students. His works are considered classics and should be read by all nature lovers.

For Advanced Students.

"Manual of North American Birds." By Robert Ridgway, of the Smithsonian Institution. Considered the most reliable manual by many advanced students. Rather technical, except for those thoroughly versed in ornithology. J. B. Lippincott, Pub., Philadelphia. Price, \$7.50.

"Key to North American Birds." By Elliott Coues. For advanced students. The descriptions are not technical and the work is commonly used by those amateurs who keep a constant interest in bird study. Dana, Estes & Co., Boston. Price, \$10.00.

"The Bird, Its Form and Function," by C. William Beebe. This is a history of the evolution of bird life, the structure of birds, and the uses of its various parts. Henry Holt & Company, New York. Price, \$3.50.

The same company announce a work now in press entitled "Birds of the World," by Frank H. Knowlton, Frederick A. Lucas and Robert Ridgway.

**Specially Adapted for Teachers, and Those Who Desire to
Become Ornithologists.**

"Birds of Eastern North America," by Frank M. Chapman. Illustrated both field key and colored key. Used extensively. On this account is considered by many as desirable, as the students in the various parts of the country refer to it and understand each other. D. Appleton, New York. Price, \$3.00; pocket edition, \$3.50.

"Birds of the United States," by Austin C. Apgar. Illustrated. Goes into details in regard to size and shape of beak, toes, wings and tails. Explains technical terms. The purpose of the book is to identify each bird by differentiating from others. It does not enter into the life of the bird or its habits. American Book Co., Chicago. Price, \$2.00.

"Birds of the United States and Canada," by Thomas Nuttall. Revised by Montague Chamberlain. One hundred and ten birds are given in the natural colors. The text gives the color, characteristics, and describes the nest and eggs of each bird and is followed with a popular biography of each species. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price, \$3.00.

"Our Own Birds," by William L. Bailey. An excellent natural history of birds, following a scientific outline, with descriptions and biographies in non-technical terms. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. Price, \$1.25.

For Teachers and Schools.

"Bird Day; How to Prepare for It," by C. A. Babcock, the originator of bird day in the schools. It is one of the most helpful books to the teacher. Besides giving directions for bird study, it has biographies of many common species. Silver Burdett Co., Chicago. Price, 50 cents.

"How to Attract the Birds," by Neltje Blanchan. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price, \$1.35. An excellent book for teachers and helpful for advanced children.

"Bird Study in the Rural School," by Thomas L. Harkinson, Eastern Illinois State Normal School, Charleston, Ill. An excellent bulletin on outline work for teachers in bird study. Distributed free.

"Stories of Bird Life," by T. Gilbert Pearson. (See heading "Books for Beginners.")

"Young Folks' Nature Field Book," by J. Allen Loring. (See heading "Books on Animals Generally.")

"Our Native Birds; How to Protect Them and Attract Them to Our Homes," by D. Lange. Macmillan Company, New York. Price, \$1.00. The title is sufficient to explain the nature of the book. It contains a chapter on bird protection.

Home Life of Wild Birds.

"Bird Homes," by H. Radcliffe Dugmore. Illustrated by many photographs, mainly of eggs and nests and the young birds. Birds building the same form of nest and of like material are grouped. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price, \$2.00.

"The Home Life of Wild Birds," by F. B. Herrick, is well spoken of. The writer has not had a chance to review the book. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. Price, \$2.00.

"Nestlings of Forest and Marsh," by Irene Grosvenor Wheelock. A study of the life of young birds, with photographs. McClurg & Co., Chicago. Price, \$1.20.

Economic Study of Birds.

"Birds in Their Relation to Man," by Clarence M. Weed and Ned Dearborn. Probably the most valuable book in circulation regarding the economic value of bird life. The advanced agriculturists would find this of great value. J. B. Lippincott. Price, \$2.50.

"How Birds Affect the Farm and Garden," by Florence A. Merrian. Every student should have this booklet. It is in paper cover, published by Forest and Stream Pub. Co., New York, and costs 5 cents. The title fully explains the work.

"Some Benefits the Farmer May Derive from Bird Protection," by T. S. Palmer. Distributed free by the U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

"The Protection of Our Native Birds," by Thos. H. Montgomery, Jr. University of Texas Bulletin. Sent for 4 cents postage.

"Some Common Birds in Their Relation to Agriculture," by F. E. L. Beal, United States Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Distributed free. Illustrated. One of the most important documents issued.

"Hawks and Owls from the Standpoint of the Farmer," by A. K. Fisher, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Sent without cost.

"The Grouse and Ducks of the United States, and Their Economic Value," by Sylvester D. Judd. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Distributed free.

"The Economic Value of the Bobwhite," by Sylvester D. Judd. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Free.

"How Birds Affect the Orchard," by F. E. L. Beal, Biological Survey. No charge.

"The Food of Nestling Birds," by Sylvester D. Judd. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Free.

"Food of the Bobolink, Blackbirds, Etc., by F. E. L. Beal. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Free.

"The Relation of Sparrows to Agriculture," by Sylvester D. Judd. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Free.

Special Books and Bulletins.

"Field Book of Wild Birds and Their Music," by F. Schuyler Mathews, is an excellent pocket guide, but would prove especially helpful to the student who has had musical training, as the author attempts to interpret the music of many birds. Most of the colored pictures of the birds in the book are good. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York Price, \$2.00.

"Distribution and Migration of North American Ducks, Geese and Swans," by Wells W. Cooke, Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Distributed free.

"The Vanishing Game Birds—The Woodcock and Wood

Duck," by A. K. Fisher. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Sent free.

"The Warblers of North America," by Frank M. Chapman; in colors; is announced by the Macmillan Co. Price, \$3.00.

"Hunting Licenses, Their History, Objects and Limitations," by T. S. Palmer. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. Sent free.

"The Destruction of Our Birds and Mammals," by Wm. T. Hornaday. One of the most logical treatises looking toward protection of animals generally. Address New York Zoological Society, 11 Wall Street, New York City. Price 15 cents.

Books on Animal Life Generally.

"American Natural History," by William T. Hornaday. This is one of the most important works on the market in the way of a brief natural history of American mammals and birds. It is well illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Price, \$3.50.

"Friends and Helpers," by S. J. Eddy. The object of the book is to give general information in regard to domestic animals and birds and proper treatment of the same. It is recommended for schools and children's clubs. It is indorsed by the American Humane Association. Ginn & Co., Boston. Price, 75 cents.

"The Life of Animals," by Ernest Ingersoll. This book is general in its nature, covering the various forms of wild animal life. The data in regard to our common animals is instructive and interesting. The Macmillan Company, New York. Price, \$2.00.

"Young Folks' Nature Field Book," by J. Allen Loring. A short reading is given for each day of the year, descriptive of the life and habits of wild animals and birds. One-half of each leaf is left blank for notes. It is most interesting and useful and has a charm that draws one to nature and is valuable to old folks as well as the young. Dana Estes & Co., Boston. \$1.00.

"Animal Snapshots," by Silas A. Lottridge. Many of the common animals and birds are described and photographed. The book is partially from the standpoint of the huntsman, but the writer brings out the contrast of hunting animals and studying them. Henry Holt & Co., New York. Price, \$1.75.

"Half Hours with Lower Animals," by C. F. Holder. Treats mainly of sea life and our common insects. The volume is intended as a supplementary school reader. American Book Company. Price, 60 cents.

Stories of Animal and Bird Life.

"Bird World," by J. H. Stickney and Ralph Hoffman. A reader for intermediate grades. Illustrated. Ginn & Co., Boston. Price, 60 cents.

"Short Studies of Our Shy Neighbors," by M. A. B. Kelly. These stories and studies include familiar animals and birds. The book is used in schools. American Book Co., Chicago. 50 cents.

"Stories of Humble Friends," by Katherine Pyle. Gives glimpses of school life among insects, birds, domesticated and wild animals. Used as school reader. American Book Co., Chicago. Price, 50 cents.

"Jimmy Suter," by Martha James Lothrop. Lee & Shepard, Boston. Price, \$1.25. We name this book, though not strictly a nature work, because we consider such works suitable for libraries. It is meant for children and much space is given to methods of boys in organizing societies for bird protection.

Humane Literature.

The American Humane Education Society publish and distribute many leaflets on the care of animals and birds. They give especial attention to domesticated animals. Their work is especially helpful among children and schools. The children organize societies known as the Band of Mercy, the object being to teach kindness, justice and mercy to all animals. The information given in the leaflets of this society in regard to the proper food, care and treatment of horses,

of 1911

dogs, cats, etc., is worth while knowing for adults as well as children. Write Geo. T. Angell, 19 Milk St., Boston. Also ask Humane Education Committee, 29 Exchange St., Providence, R. I., for maps for schools and humane educational literature.

M. L. Hall, 126 Ridge St., Providence, R. I., will send a full set of leaflets on receipt of 25 cents. Send stamp for price list.

The American Humane Association distributes leaflets as the above. They all appear to be associated in similar humane work. Write Mrs. Mary F. Lovell.

Maps for Schools, Public Libraries and Clubs.

Prang Educational Company, of Boston, publish an excellent map, showing twenty-six of our common birds in color. The map is of heavy linen. A booklet describing these birds written by Ralph Hoffman accompanies the map. Price, \$1.30.

A. W. Elson & Co., 146 Oliver street, Boston, Mass., publish a portrait of Audubon suitable for public schools and libraries. The cut used in the front of this book is a small copy of the portrait and was kindly loaned by this company.

"Bird Note Book." This consists of tablets each containing lines for date and color of bird and circles in which the size of the bird may be given by making a cross. Outlines of the shape of the tail, etc., are given, all of which facilitate the taking of notes. Richard H. Gerberding is the designer and publisher, 1315 Waveland avenue, Chicago, Ill. Price, 35 cents.

It is well for the amateur to have some form of note-book, as they suggest many details that would be overlooked. There are so many birds so near alike that it is not well to depend on memory, as the student is likely to get confused when trying to identify from descriptions in the books.

Bird-Lore also issue a note book.

Our thanks are due to Shield's Magazine for the loan of cuts. Shield's Magazine is published at 1269 Broadway, New

York City, in the interest of sportsmen. The editor, Mr. Geo. O. Shields, is an ardent protectionist of both mammals and birds. His magazine officially represents the League of American Sportsmen.



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Downy Woodpeckers.

By-Laws of Michigan Audubon Society

(Organized February, 1904.)

Article I.—Of Name.

The name of this Society shall be the Audubon Society of the State of Michigan.

Article II.—Of Objects.

It is the purpose of this Society (1) to disseminate information respecting the economic value of birds to agriculture, and their importance to the welfare of man; (2) To discourage the purchase or use of the feathers of any birds for ornamentation, except those of the Ostrich and domesticated fowls; (3) To discourage the destruction of wild birds and their eggs; to co-operate with societies and individuals in the protection of useful or harmless wild animals and in preserving the rights of domesticated animals; (4) To establish Bird Day exercises in the schools of the State of Michigan, in connection with the celebration of Arbor Day, and to encourage the introduction of bird study in schools.

Article III.—Of Members.

The Society shall consist of members, junior members, sustaining members, and life members. Any person is eligible for membership who is willing to subscribe to the principles of this Society.

Article IV.—Of Fees.

Members shall pay an annual fee of one dollar, except teachers in the schools of the State of Michigan, who shall become full members upon payment of 25 cents yearly or life members upon payment of one dollar at any time. Junior members shall pay an entrance fee of ten cents, and shall consist of persons under the age of eighteen years. Sustain-

ing members shall pay an annual fee of five dollars. Any person may become a life member on payment at one time of twenty-five dollars to the Treasurer of the Society.

Article V.—Of Officers.

Section 1.—The officers of the Society shall be a President, Honorary Vice-Presidents, not to exceed twelve in number, a General Secretary-Treasurer and an Executive Committee, or Council, consisting of not more than twelve members, of which the President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be *ex-officio* members.

Section 2.—These officers shall be elected at the annual meeting, and shall remain in office until the close of the meeting at which their successors are chosen.

Section 3.—The Executive Committee shall have power to accept resignations from its body, and to fill vacancies in its membership, and shall elect its Chairman, who shall be chosen at the annual meeting of the Committee.

Section 4.—The duties of the several officers and the Executive Committee shall be to transact any business they deem necessary for the advancement of the objects of the Society.

Section 5.—Local Secretaries may be appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall be under the general supervision of the Secretary-Treasurer.

Article VI.—Of Meetings.

Section 1.—The annual meeting of the Society shall take place in the month of January, at a day and place fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2.—A notice of the annual meeting shall be sent ten days in advance to all the Executive and Honorary officers of the Society, and such notices shall also be given in the daily press as the Executive Committee may direct.

Section 3.—The annual meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held as soon as practicable after the annual meeting of the Society. The regular business meetings of the

Committee may be called by the President or Chairman of the Executive Committee, or on the written request of three members of the Executive Committee. The President, or in his absence the Chairman of the Executive Committee, shall preside at all meetings. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII.

Amendments to these By-Laws may be made by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee present at any meeting, provided written notice of the proposed change shall have been sent by mail to every member of the Executive Committee not less than ten days previous to said meeting.

Address Jefferson Butler, Secretary-Treasurer, 25 Elizabeth St. West, Detroit, Mich.



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Spotted Sandpiper on Nest.

Michigan Game Laws

An Act to revise and amend the laws for the protection of game and birds.

(Act 257, P. A. 1905.)

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

(384.) Section 1. That all wild animals and wild birds, both resident and migratory, in this State, shall be, and are hereby declared to be, the property of the State.

Sec. 385. Relates to deer.

Sec. 386. Relates to deer.

Sec. 387. Relates to deer.

(388.) Sec. 5. No person shall by himself, his clerk, servant or agent, expose or keep for sale, or directly or indirectly, upon any pretense or device, sell or barter, or in the consideration of the purchase of any other property, give to any other person any of the protected animals or birds mentioned in this act within the State of Michigan, nor shall any person or persons, or any corporation acting as a common carrier, its officers, agents or servants, ship, carry, take or transport, either within or beyond the confines of this State, any animal or animals, or portion or portions thereof, or bird or birds protected by this act, except as hereinafter provided: Provided, however, That it shall be lawful to ship, and any corporation acting as a common carrier, its officers, agents or servants may lawfully ship, carry, take or transport either within or beyond the confines of this State any such animal or animals or portion or portions thereof or bird or birds which may be consigned at any station in this State to any consignee in said State, where the nearest railroad route from such shipping point to any such destination within the State, leaves the confines of the State and re-enters the same.

Sec. 389. Relates to deer.

Sec. 390. Relates to deer.

Sec. 391. Relates to deer.

Sec. 392. Relates to deer.



ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK

(UPPER FIGURE, MALE; LOWER FIGURE, FEMALE)

Order—PASSERES
Genus—ZAMELODIA

Family—FRINGILLIDÆ
Species—LUDOVICIANA

U. S. N.

WFOU

(393.) Sec. 10. No person shall kill, capture or destroy, or attempt to kill, capture or destroy by any means whatever, any mourning dove, or any Antwerp or homing pigeon within the limits of this State. It shall be unlawful to kill or capture, or attempt to kill or capture by any means whatever, any pinnated grouse, commonly called prairie chicken, or any Mongolian or English pheasants or any black fowl or capercailzie or any hazel grouse or any wild turkey or any wild pigeon until the year nineteen hundred ten and then only at the time, in the manner and for the purpose authorized by law.

(394.) Sec. 11. No person shall injure, kill or destroy, or attempt to kill, injure or destroy by any means whatever, partridge, commonly called quail, until the fifteenth day of October, nineteen hundred seven, except as hereunder permitted, and then and thereafter only between the fifteenth day of October and the thirtieth day of November, both inclusive, in each year, and it shall be unlawful during said last mentioned period for any person to kill more than twelve quail in one day, and it shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or in the possession of any person, firm or corporation for him at one time, more than fifty such bob white or Virginia partridge, commonly called quail.

(395.) Sec. 12. No person shall injure, kill or destroy, or attempt to kill, injure or destroy by any means whatever, any ruffed grouse, commonly called partridge, or any spruce hen, save only from October fifteenth to November thirtieth, both inclusive, in each year: Provided, however, That in the Upper Peninsula ruffed grouse, commonly called partridge, and spruce hen, may be killed from October first to November thirtieth, both inclusive, in each year. And it shall be unlawful during the periods last above in this section mentioned, for any person to kill, injure, destroy or capture by any means whatever, a greater number of ruffed grouse or spruce hen than twelve in one day, and it shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or in the possession of any person, firm or corporation for him at any one time, more than fifty ruffed grouse or more than fifty spruce hen.

(396.) Sec. 13. No person shall injure, kill or destroy or attempt to injure, kill or destroy by any means whatever,

any kind of wild duck, snipe, plover, woodcock, or any kind of wild water fowl save only from September first in each year to January first of the year following, both inclusive, and then only from one-half hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset of each day: Provided, however, That in addition to the open season for wild fowl shooting hereinbefore in this section established, it shall be lawful to hunt and kill blue bill, canvass back, red head, widgeon, pintail, whistler, spoon bill and butter ball ducks between the fifteenth day of March and the tenth day of April, both inclusive, in each year: And provided further, That it shall be lawful to hunt and kill wild geese, brant, and saw-bill ducks between the first day of September in each year and the first day of January in the year following, and from the fifteenth of March to the tenth of April. No person or persons shall hunt, pursue, worry or kill any wild water fowl by any means whatever during such time, as said person or persons are upon any floating device, or contrivance, propelled by or using as motive power steam, gas, naphtha, oil, gasoline or electricity, or when upon any sail boat, nor shall any person or persons make use of any swivel or put gun for the killing of any wild water fowl, or make use of any battery, sink boat, or similar device whatever, save only a gun of not greater size than ten gauge, such gun to be held in the hands at the time of firing, and it shall be unlawful for any person to kill in any one day more than twenty-five game fowl or birds mentioned in this section. And it shall be unlawful for any person at any one time, to have in his possession or in the possession of any person, firm or corporation for him, more than seventy-five such game fowl or birds.

(397). Sec. 14. No person or persons shall at any time make use of any pit, pitfall, deadfall scaffold, cage, snare, trap, net, baited hook, or any similar device, or any drug, poison, chemical or explosive, for the purpose of injuring, capturing or killing any birds or animals protected by the laws of this State, nor shall any person at any time or in any manner whatever, injure, or destroy or rob the nest, or take, injure or destroy, or have in possession the eggs of any bird protected by the laws of this State; or molest, harass or annoy such birds upon their nests, except as herein provided.

(398.) Sec. 15. No person or persons shall molest, harass or annoy or break, train or practice, any dog upon any game bird, or animal referred to in this act during their respective close dseasons: Provided, That it shall be lawful for any person or persons to train or practice dogs upon game birds for fifteen days next preceding the opening of the ruffed grouse season in each year: Provided further, That it shall be unlawful for any such person to have in his possession any firearms while so engaged in training and practicing such dogs. Excepting, however, that the State Game and Fish Warden may in his discretion issue to any bona fide field trial association within this State a permit to kill not to exceed twenty-five quail in any one year in connection with the field trial exhibition of such field trial association.

(399.) Sec. 16. For the purpose of this act, the following shall be considered game birds: The Anatidae commonly known as geese, brant and wild ducks; the Rallidae commonly known as rails, coots and gallinules; the Limcolae commonly known as shore birds, snipe, woodcock, plover, sandpipers, tatlers and curlews; the Gallinae commonly known as wild turkeys, pheasants, grouse, prairie chickens and quail. All other species of wild resident or migratory birds shall be considered non-game birds.

(400.) Sec. 17. No person within the State of Michigan shall kill, catch, or have in his or their possession any resident or migratory wild non-game bird, living or dead, or purchase, offer, or expose for sale, any such wild non-game bird, after it has been killed or caught, except as permitted by this act, and no part of the plumage, skin or body of any non-game bird protected by this act shall be sold or had in possession for sale, and this irrespective of whether said bird was captured or killed within or without this State, and no person within this State shall take or destroy, or attempt to take or destroy, the eggs of any wild bird, or have the eggs in his or their possession, except as permitted by this act.

(401.) Sec. 18. Section seventeen of this act shall not apply to any persons holding a certificate giving the rights to take birds, their nests or eggs, for scientific purposes as hereinafter provided. Such certificates may be granted by a board, to consist of three persons who shall be appointed

annually, one by the president of the University of Michigan, one by the president of the Michigan Agricultural College, and one by the president of the State Normal College. Such board shall report annually on the first day of December, in writing, to the governor, giving a detail of permits issued, amount of moneys received and how disbursed and any surplus over actual necessary expenses shall be turned over to the State Treasurer and credited to the general fund. Such appointments shall be made on or before the fifteenth day of December in each year and the term of office of such appointee shall commence on the first day of January of the year following such appointment and shall continue for one year from and after said date, last mentioned. To any person above the age of fifteen years, who shall present written testimonials from two reputable ornithologists, certifying to the good character and fitness of said applicant to be entrusted with such privilege, such permit may be issued: Provided, That but one permit be issued to any one person and then only authorizing the person holding such permit to take one pair each of the birds and one nest and one nest of eggs of the kind of birds specified in such certificate: Provided further, That the board, upon issuing such permits, shall keep a record of the same and immediately notify the State Game and Fish Warden of the issuing of each permit, which notice shall state the name and age of the holder of the certificate and the kind of birds, nests and eggs authorized to be taken and the place or places where they propose to hunt the same. A fee of one dollar shall accompany such application for certificate. Such fee of one dollar shall go to said board to cover its necessary expenses. On proof that the holder of said certificate has violated the provisions of this act and has collected for other than scientific purposes, he shall be punished upon conviction of such offense as provided in section twenty-nine of this act. The certificates authorized by this act shall expire on the last day of December of the year of issuance and shall not be transferable, and shall not authorize the holder to take any blue bird or its nest or eggs, any kirtland warbler its nest or eggs, any scarlet tanager its nest or eggs, or any red-breasted grosbeak its nest or eggs: Provided, That no person shall by himself, his

clerk, servant or agent, expose or keep for sale, or directly or indirectly, upon any pretense or any device, sell or barter, or in consideration of the purchase of any other property give to any person any of the birds, or any part of the birds taken under the provisions of this section.

(402.) Sec. 19. English sparrows, black birds, crows, coopers hawks, sharpshinned hawks and great horned owls are not included among the birds protected by this act: Provided, That said birds are not sold or offered for sale or shipped beyond the confines of this State.

(403.) Sec. 20. No person shall have in possession the dead body or carcass or skin, or any portion thereof, of any animal or bird mentioned or referred to in this act during the time when the killing of such animal or bird is unlawful, except as authorized by law, and excepting specimens, heads or pelts, prepared or mounted for scientific or educational purposes: Provided, however, That any person may have in his possession for five days after the closing of the season, game birds and animals lawfully killed during the open season: Provided further, That any person engaged in rearing any of the animals mentioned in this act, within an enclosure, may kill for his own use and consumption at any time any of the said animals, and may sell and transport alive any of the said animals, when accompanied by a permit from the State Game and Fish Warden; and it shall be the duty of the said State Game and Fish Warden to issue such permits upon application, when satisfied that such animals were so reared within an enclosure.

(405.) Sec. 22. In all prosecutions for a violation of any of the provisions of this act, the person or persons claiming the benefit of section twenty must show affirmatively as a part of his defense on the examination or trial, that the animal or bird of which the dead body or carcass or skin, or any portion thereof, is shown to have been in his possession during the time when by law the killing of such animal or bird is unlawful, was killed at a time, and in the manner, and for the purpose authorized by law, and that his possession at the time complained of was for one of the purposes authorized by said section, and it shall not be necessary for the

prosecution to aver or prove that such possession was not for the purposes authorized by said section.

(407.) Sec. 24. The injuring, destruction or killing or capturing or selling, or having in possession of each animal or bird injured, captured, killed or destroyed, sold or possessed contrary to the provisions of this act shall be a separate offense and the person so offending shall be liable to the penalties and the punishments herein provided for each offense. In all prosecutions for a violation of any of the provisions of this act, proof of the possession of the dead body, carcass or skin, or any portion thereof, of any animal or bird mentioned or referred to in this act, except as hereinbefore provided at a time when the killing thereof is unlawful, shall be prima facie evidence that such animal or bird was killed at a time when the killing thereof was prohibited by law. All persons violating any of the provisions of this act, whether as principal, agent, servant or employe, shall be equally liable as principal, and any person or principal shall be liable for any violation of any of the provisions of this act, by his agent, servant or employe, done under his direction or knowledge.

(408.) Sec. 25. The State Game and Fish Warden is hereby given authority to issue permits to any person to take, capture or kill any animal or game bird mentioned in this act, at any time when satisfied such person desires the same exclusively as specimens or for scientific or propagating purposes. Such permit shall be in writing and shall state the kind and number to be taken, the manner of taking, the name of the person to whom issued, and shall be signed by him, and shall have attached the seal of his department; such permit shall not be transferable, nor shall it be lawful to sell or barter any of the game birds or animals taken under such permits, and the holder of such permit shall be liable to the penalties provided in this act if he violates any of the provisions. A fee of one dollar shall accompany all said applications, which amount shall be immediately forwarded to the State Treasurer and then credited to the State Game and Fish Warden fund.

(409.) Sec. 26. The State Game and Fish Warden may issue permits to the trustees or custodians of any public park to transport out of this State, any bird or animal held in such

park, when satisfied that such transfer is for the purpose of exchange with other public parks outside of this State; such permits shall not be transferable and shall be in writing, and issued under the seal of his department, and shall state the name and location of the public park, to whom issued, the name and location of the public park to which transferred, the kind and number of birds or animals for which exchange is made.

(410.) Sec. 27. The State Game and Fish Warden may, in his discretion, on application and the payment of a ten dollar fee, issue to individuals owning lands in this State, or bona fide members of clubs who own and maintain game preserves in this State, permits good for the yearly game season, to ship during the season fifty wild ducks or other migratory birds lawfully killed by him or them, on their own premises or the premises of the club of which he or they are members, to his or their respective homes out of the State: Provided, The shipper shall, in each case, make and attach to the package containing such game, his own affidavit, a duplicate copy of which he shall immediately cause to be mailed to the State Game and Fish Warden, setting forth that the wild game birds thus shipped, describing the same, were killed on his premises, or the premises of the club of which he is a member, describing and designating such premises, and that the game was killed by himself, and is not for sale and will not be offered for sale. Any violation of the privileges herein given shall at once work a forfeiture of the permit granted, and each and every person guilty of violating this section shall be punished as provided in section twenty-nine of this act. The money derived from the payment of fees prescribed in this section shall within ten days after the receipt thereof be forwarded by the State Game and Fish Warden to the State Treasurer, and deposited in the proper fund in the state treasury, and so much of said moneys as shall be so transmitted to the State Treasurer shall be paid out by the Auditor General on his warrant, but only in payment for services rendered by the State Game and Fish Warden and his deputies as allowed by law for such services and the necessary traveling expenses in enforcing the game and fish laws of this State, upon itemized bills duly certified

by the State Game and Fish Warden and allowed by the board of state auditors.

(411.) Sec. 28. It shall be the duty of the State Game and Fish Warden and all deputy wardens, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and constables, to enforce the provisions of this act, and the Michigan Audubon Society, a body incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan, may name four persons to represent such society in carrying out the provisions of this act. Each person so named shall be duly appointed by the Game and Fish Warden and shall be invested with and exercise all the powers of a deputy game warden, but shall receive no compensation therefor from the State of Michigan or any county thereof. It shall be the duty of the Michigan Audubon Society to assign territory to the persons selected by them to carry out the provisions of this act as above provided and to require a monthly report from each of such persons. Upon complaint that such person or persons so appointed are negligent in the duties assigned to him or them in carrying out the provisions of this act, the said Audubon Society shall report the fact to the Game and Fish Warden, who shall immediately remove such person or persons and upon recommendation of the Audubon Society shall make appointment to fill such vacancy. In pursuance of this provision the said Michigan Audubon Society shall file a bond with the Secretary of State in the amount of one thousand dollars, with sufficient sureties, approved by the Secretary of State.

(412.) Sec. 29. Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, for the first offense, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars, together with cost of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court, and for the second or any subsequent offense, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars and not to exceed two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court, and in all cases when a fine and cost is imposed the

court shall sentence the offender to be confined in the county jail until such fine and costs are paid, for any period not exceeding the maximum jail penalty provided for such offense.

(413.) Sec. 30. Act number two hundred seventeen of the Public Acts of nineteen hundred one, and all acts or parts of acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.



By courtesy of Shield's Magazine.

Kildeer on Nest.

Notes on Legislation

The United States Biological says a bounty on English sparrows has proven futile in the states where tried; has led to inhumanity on the part of boys, and a great deal of fraud. It should be remembered that death and injury came to several boys as the result of the last state bounty law in Michigan. Mr. P. A. Taverner, an expert ornithologist of Detroit, says that such a law would benefit Ohio, Indiana and Canada, as much or more than Michigan, as English sparrows are quick to take up vacant territory and would soon flock from the overcrowded districts. The U. S. Department of Agriculture says that money spent in a sparrow bounty is wasted.

The meadow lark is sometimes killed as a game bird, but under our laws is classed as a song bird, and is absolutely protected. Senator Traver says that some sportsmen want this bird put on the game list. The U. S. Biological Survey has learned from examining the stomachs of the meadow larks that it is one of the greatest destroyers of insect pests and is worth on the average twelve dollars yearly to the farmer. These birds will live probably five or six years, and consequently each bird would be worth from sixty to seventy dollars to the state. It has been estimated that these birds increase the value of the grass crop \$336.40 in each township of 36 square miles during the grasshopper season. Their body is so small as to make them practically useless as food. Sportsmen say they do not kill this bird for the food but for the sport. Such sport is rather expensive to the state. Besides the meadowlark is a song bird, and one of the most beautiful to look upon. The Audubonists throughout the country would protest against putting this bird on the game list.

The legislature should abolish the barbarous practice of pigeon shooting from traps. Many states have refused to recognize trap shooting of live pigeons as sport, and the practice has been abolished in the advanced European countries. The contest in trap shooting of pigeons that takes

place in Michigan every spring are anything but edifying, and should be forbidden, as such contests properly come under the head of cruelty. Men come from all parts of the country to take part in this butchery, from states where it is prohibited, and because of this Michigan is known as a backward state.

Quail should be protected absolutely in this state for at least two years. Properly speaking, they should be protected until such time as they may become a nuisance, if such time should ever arise, for the reason that the United States Biological Survey say that is one of the most valuable pest destroyers our country possesses, and each bird is valued as worth twenty dollars yearly to the state.

Kansas not only protected the quail by law, but it also enforced the law through its officials with the result that Kansas has quail to sell to the other states where they were destroyed.

The majority of our states as well as Canada has abolished spring shooting, for the reason that that is the season for breeding. It is reasonable to say that every game bird in the spring is equal to taking three or four in the autumn. The Canadian sportsmen say that if Michigan persists in spring shooting they will insist on spring shooting in their own country. Michigan cannot suffer by abolishing spring shooting for, say, four years, as an experiment. If Canada and the surrounding states allow an open spring season there will be little of either spring or fall shooting in four years.

There are always a few fishermen who would like to see the kingfish destroyed. The fact is that this bird is not common enough to materially damage the fishing in even a small stream. The last legislature refused to consider the advisability of destroying this bird, and we have every reason to believe that the present legislature will refuse to consider any such proposal if such is made.

Lastly, the game warden is entitled to a larger sum for the protection of game. He has been hampered for funds to carry on the work properly, and though his report for 1906 shows a surplus, yet this is because the work has been only half done. His office should receive all license fees collected for hunting, now paid to the various counties. This is only

fair. The Audubon Society of North Carolina receives all hunting license fees paid in the state, and undertake to fill the office of game warden for the state. The society receives about \$11,000 yearly in fees, which about meets the expense of game protection. The society makes public reports as to number of deputies engaged, the work they do, complaints made, cases prosecuted, fines levied. Whatever method is adopted in Michigan to raise money for game protection may matter little so long as sufficient is raised to carry on the work properly. The game warden should be obliged to give a full report of the work in the state at least yearly.

Licensing Committee

Section 18 of the Public Acts of 1905 provide that the president of the University of Michigan, the president of the Michigan Agricultural College, and the president of the State Normal School shall annually appoint a board of three persons who shall grant licenses for the taking of birds and their eggs for scientific purposes. The following have been appointed as such board, and have filled such position during 1906, and by reappointment are serving for 1907:

Bryant Walker, Detroit—Appointed by President Angell, of the University of Michigan.

Prof. Walter B. Barrows—Appointed by President J. L. Snyder, of the Michigan Agricultural College.

Prof. E. R. Downing, of the Northern State Normal School, Marquette—Appointed by President Lewis H. Jones, State Normal College.

Prof. Barrows is chairman.

There are those who consider it wrong to acquiesce in the passage of such a law, but the officers of both the National and local Audubon Society know that the scientific students usually work in the interests of birds, especially those connected with college work. They utilize the dead bird to the best advantage in educating the public as to the value of bird life. It is found to be much better to have a reasonable regulation in regard to the taking of birds than to drift without any law on the subject which would probably be the case if an agreement were not reached.



UPPER FIGURES—CHESTNUT-BACKED BLUEBIRD

Order—PASSERES	Family—TURDIDÆ
Genus—SIALIA	Species—MEXICANA
SUBSPECIES—BAIRDI	

LOWER FIGURES—BLUEBIRDS

Order—PASSERES	Family—TURDIDÆ
Genus—SIALIA	Species—SIALIS

